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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Substance of His Recommendations to the Congress of the United States.

FOR GOLD STANDARD.

Speaks of the Healthy Growth of Our Foreign Commerce, the Status Of Our Foreign Possessions, Etc.

The following is a synopsis of President McKinley's message read in Congress:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

At the threshold of your deliberations you are called to mourn with your countrymen the death of Vice President Hobart, who passed from this life on the morning of November 21st last. His great soul now rests in eternal peace. His private life was pure and elevated, while his public career was ever distinguished by large capacity, stainless integrity and exalted motives. He has been removed from the high office which he honored and dignified, but his lofty character, his devotion to duty, his honesty of purpose and his noble virtues remain with us as a priceless legacy and example.

A GENERAL REVIEW OF CONDITIONS.

The Fifty-sixth Congress convenes in its first regular session with the country in a condition of unusual prosperity, of universal good will among the people at home, and with relations of peace and friendship with every government of the world. Our foreign commerce has shown great increase in volume and value. The combined imports and exports for the year are the largest ever shown by single year in all our history. Our exports for 1899 alone exceed by more than $1,000,000,000 our imports and exports combined in 1870. The imports per capita were 20 per cent. less than in 1870, while the exports per capita are 58 per cent. more than in 1870, showing the enlarged capacity of the United States to satisfy the wants of their own increasing population, as well as to contribute to those of the peoples of other nations. Exports of agricultural products were $784,776,142. Of manufactured products we exported in value $339,592,146, being larger than any previous year. It is a noteworthy fact that the only years in all our history when the products of our manufactories sold abroad exceeded those bought abroad were 1898 and 1899.

THE COUNTRY'S FINANCES.

Government receipts from all sources for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899, including $11,798,314.14 part of payment of the Central Pacific Railroad indebtedness, aggregated $610,952,004.55. Custom receipts were $206,128,481.75, and those from internal revenue $273,437,161.51. For the fiscal year the expenditures were $700,693,564, leaving a deficit of $89,111,559.67. The Secretary of the Treasury estimates that the receipts for the current fiscal year will aggregate $640,958,112, and upon the basis of present appropriations the expenditures will aggregate $660,958,112, leaving a surplus of $40,000,000. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899, the internal revenue receipts were increased about $100,000,000.

The present gratifying strength of the Treasury is shown by the fact that on December 1, 1899, the available cash balance was $278,004,837.72, of which $239,744,905.36 was in gold coin and bullion. The conditions of confidence which prevail throughout the country have brought gold into more general use and customs receipts are now almost entirely paid in that coin.

INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY.

Increased activity in industry, with its welcome attendant—large employment for labor at higher wages—gives to the body of the people a larger power to absorb the circulating medium. It is further true that year by year, with larger areas of land under cultivation, the increasing volume of agricultural products—cotton, corn and wheat—calls for a larger volume of money supply. This is especially noticeable at the crop harvesting and crop moving period.

MODIFICATION OF THE NATIONAL BANKING ACT.

The President refers to the national banking act, and urges that national banks be authorized to organize with a capital of $25,000. He says that in its earlier history the national banking act seemed to prove a reasonable avenue through which needful additions to the circulation could from time to time be made. Changing conditions have apparently rendered it now inoperative to that end. The high margin in bond securities required, resulting from large premiums which government bonds commanded in the market, or the tax on note issues, or both operating together, appear to be the influences which impair its public utility.

TO INSURE CONTINUANCE OF THE GOLD STANDARD.

Concerning the gold standard the President says: "I urgently recommend that to support the existing gold standard and to maintain the parity in value of the coins of the two metals (gold and silver) and the equal power of every dollar at all times in the market and in the payment of debts, the Secretary of the Treasury be given additional power and charged with the duty to sell United States bonds and to employ such other effective means as may be necessary to these ends. The authority should include the power to sell bonds on long and short time as conditions may require, and should provide for a rate of interest lower than that fixed by the act of January 14, 1875. While there is now no commercial fright which draws gold from the government—on the contrary, such widespread confidence that gold seeks the Treasury demanding paper money in exchange—yet the very situation points to the present as the most fitting time to make adequate provisions to insure the continuance of the gold standard and of public confidence in the ability and purpose of the government to meet all its obligations in the money which the civilized world recognizes as the best. The financial transactions of the government are conducted upon a gold basis. We receive gold when we issue bonds and use gold for their payment. We are maintaining the parity of all money issued or coined by authority of the government. We are doing these things with the means at hand. Happily at the present time, we are not compelled to resort to loans to supply gold. It has been done in the past, however, and may have to be done in the future. It behooves us, therefore, to provide at once the best means to meet the emergency when it arises, and the best means are those which are the most certain and economical. Those now authorized have the virtue neither of directness nor economy.

THE TRUSTS.

The President next discusses the question of trusts on which he says: "Combinations of capital organized into trusts to control the conditions of trade among our citizens, to stifle competition, limit production, and determine the prices of products used and consumed by the people, are justly provoking public discussion, and should early claim the attention of Congress. The industrial commission, created by the act of the Congress of June 18, 1898, has been engaged in extended hearings upon the disputed questions involved in the subject of combinations in restraint of trade and competition. They have not yet completed their investigation of this subject, and the conclusions and recommendations at which they may arrive are undetermined. The subject is one giving rise to many divergent views as to the nature and variety or cause and extent of the injuries to the public which may result from large combinations concentrating more or less numerous enterprises and establishments, which previously to the formation of the combination, were carried on separately.

CONGRESS URGED TO ACT.

"It is universally conceded that combinations which engross or control the market of any particular kind of merchandise or commodity necessary to the general community, by suppressing natural and ordinary competition, whereby prices are unduly enhanced to the general consumer, are obnoxious, not only to the common law, but also to the public welfare. There must be a remedy for the evils involved in such organizations. If the present law can be extended more certainly to control or check these monopolies or trusts, it should be done without delay. Whatever power the Congress possesses over this most important subject should be promptly ascertained and asserted."

THE ACT OF 1890.

Harrison's message of December 3, 1889, on this subject and adds: "An act to protect trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies was passed by Congress on the second of July, 1890. The provisions of this statute are comprehensive and stringent. It declares every contract or combination, in the form of a trust or otherwise, or conspiracy in the restraint of trade or commerce among the several States or with foreign nations, to be unlawful. It denominates as a criminal every person who makes any such contract or engages in any such combination or conspiracy, and provides a punishment by fine or imprisonment. It invests the several Circuit Courts of the United States with jurisdiction to prevent and restrain violations of the act, and makes it the duty of the several United States district attorneys, under the direction of the Attorney General, to institute proceedings in equity to prevent and restrain such violations. It further confers upon any person who shall be injured in his business or property by any other person or corporation by reason of anything forbidden or declared to be unlawful by the act, the power to sue therefor in any Circuit Court of the United States without respect to the amount in controversy, and to recover threefold the damages by him sustained and the costs of the suit, including reasonable attorney fees. It will be perceived that the act is aimed at every kind of combination in the nature of a trust or monopoly in restraint of inter-State or international commerce.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Passing to our relations with foreign States, the work of the State Department for the past year is thoroughly reviewed. Among the subjects touched upon are the settlement of the long pending boundary dispute between the Argentine Republic and Chili; progress that has been made toward the colonization of a convention of extradition in the Argentine Republic, which only awaits the adjustment of some slight changes in the text before exchange; the refusal of this government to assume liability for the killing of certain Austrian and Hungarian subjects by the authorities of Pennsylvania at Lattimer, while suppressing an unlawful tumult of miners, September 10, 1897; the mitigation by the Belgian government of restrictions on the importation of cattle from the United States; the attempt on the part of our government to induce the government of Bolivia to amend its marriage laws so as to give legal status to the non-Catholic and civil marriages of aliens within its jurisdiction; the settlement of the claim for the seizure of the American-owned newspaper, The Panama Star and Herald, by the authorities of Colombia, that government agreeing to pay $30,000 in damages. Discussion of the question raised by the action of Denmark in imposing restrictions on the importation of American meats has continued without substantial result in our favor. The goodwill of Brazil in cordially receiving two American warships and that of Colombia by the extension of facilities to the Nicaraguan Canal commission in their approaching investigation of the Panama Canal and other projected routes across the Isthmus of Darien is mentioned. The controversy growing out of the collection of certain public dues by the Nicaraguan government during the insurrectionary movement last February is still unsettled.

AMERICAN TRADE IN CHINA.

The President renews his recommendations made in his message to Congress, December 5, 1898, for an appropriation for a commission to study the commercial and industrial conditions in the Chinese Empire, and to report as to the opportunities for, and obstacles to, the enlargement of markets in China for the raw products and manufactures of the United States. The importance of this subject has steadily grown and no time should be lost in studying for ourselves the resources of this great field for American trade and enterprise. Considerable space is devoted to the coming Paris Exposition and the advantages of a proper American display are set forth.

GOOD FELLOWSHIP WITH GERMANY.

"Our relations with Germany continue to be most cordial. The increasing intimacy of direct association has been marked during the past year by the granting permission in April, for the landing on our shores of a cable from Borkum Emden, on the North Sea, by way of the Azores, and also by the conclusion on September 2nd, of a Parcels Post Convention with the German Empire. In all that promises closer relations of intercourse and commerce and a better understanding between two races having so many traits in common, Germany can be assured of the most cordial co-operation of this government and people. We may be rivals in many material paths, but our rivalry should be generous and open, ever aiming toward the attainment of larger results and the mutually beneficial advancement of each in the line of its especial adaptabilities.

THE ALASKAN BOUNDARY.

The work of the joint high commission and its failure to determine the Alaskan boundary receives attention, and the hope is expressed that the negotiations now in progress between this government and that of Great Britain will end in an agreement for the establishment and delimitation of a permanent boundary. Apart from these questions growing out of our relationship with our Northern neighbor, the most friendly disposition and ready agreement have marked the discussion of numerous matters arising in the vast and intimate intercourse of the United States and Great Britain.

THE BOER WAR—A NEUTRAL ATTITUDE.

"The government has maintained an attitude of neutrality in the unfortunate contest between Great Britain and the Boer States of Africa. We have remained faithful to the precept of avoiding entangling alliances as to affairs not of our direct concern. Had circumstances suggested that the parties to the quarrel would have welcomed any kindly expression of the heart of the American people that war might be averted, our good offices would have been gladly tendered. The United States representative at Pretoria was early instructed to see that all neutral American interests be respected by the combatants. This has been an easy task, in view of the positive declarations of both British and Boer authorities that the personal and property rights of our citizens should be observed. Upon the withdrawal of the British agent from Pretoria the United States consul was authorized, upon the request of the British government and with the assent of the South African and Orange Free State governments, to exercise the customary good offices of a neutral for the care of British interests. In the discharge of this function I am happy to say that abundant opportunity has been afforded to show the impartiality of this government toward both the combatants.

A NATURALIZATION CONVENTION.

"After many years of endeavor on the part of this government to that end, the Italian government has consented to enter into negotiations for a naturalization convention, having for one of its objects the regulation of the status of Italians (except those of an age for active military service), who, having been naturalized in the United States, may revisit Italy. It is hoped that with the mutually conciliatory spirit displayed a successful conclusion will be reached."

THE SAMOAN TROUBLE.

The recent trouble in Samoa is gone into exhaustively and negotiations which led to the retirement of Great Britain and the partition of the islands between this country and Germany are described. The recently signed treaty is transmitted to the Senate.

THE CUBAN SITUATION.

Concerning Cuba the President says: "The withdrawal of the authority of Spain from the island of Cuba was effected by the first of January, so that the full re-establishment of peace found the relinquished territory held by us in trust for the inhabitants, maintaining, under the direction of the executive, such government and control therein as should conserve public order, restore the productive conditions of peace so long disturbed by the instability and disorder which prevailed for the greater part of the preceding three decades, and build up that tranquil development of the domestic state whereby alone can be realized the high purpose, as proclaimed in the joint resolution adopted by the Congress on the 19th of April, 1898, by which the United States disclaimed any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction, or control over Cuba, except for the pacification thereof, and asserted its determination when that was accomplished to leave the government and control of the island to its people. The pledge contained in this resolution is of the highest honorable obligation and must be sacredly kept.

"I believe that substantial progress has been made in this direction. All the administrative measures adopted in Cuba have aimed to fit it for a regenerated existence by enforcing the supremacy of law and justice; by placing wherever possible the machinery of administration in the hands of the inhabitants; by instituting needed sanitary reforms; by spreading education; by fostering industry and trade; and by inculcating public morality, and, in short, by taking every rational step to aid the Cuban people to attain to that plane of self-conscious respect and self-reliance only which fits enlightened communities for self-government within its own sphere, while enabling it to fulfill all outward obligations.

THE CENSUS TO SOLVE THE QUESTION OF CITIZENSHIP.

"On the 19th of August last an order was made for the taking of the census in the island to be completed on the 30th of November. By the treaty of peace, the Spanish people on the island have until April 11, 1900, to elect whether they will remain citizens of Spain, or become citizens of Cuba. Until then it cannot be definitely ascertained who shall be entitled to participate in the formation of the government of Cuba. By that time the results of the census will have been tabulated and we shall proceed to provide for elections which will commit the municipal governments of the island to the officers elected by the people. The experience thus acquired will prove of great value in the formation of a representative convention of the people to draft a constitution and establish a general system of independent government for the island. In the meantime, and so long as we exercise control over the island, the products of Cuba should have a market in the United States on as good terms and with as favorable rates of duty as are given to the West India islands under treaties of reciprocity which shall be made."

OUR SOLDIERS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The President recommends that Congress provide a special medal of honor for the volunteers, regulars, sailors and marines, on duty in the Philippines who voluntarily remained in the service after their terms of enlistment had expired. "The force now in Manila consists of 905 officers and 30,507 regulars and 594 officers and 15,388 of the volunteers, making an aggregate of 1,499 officers and 45,966 men. When the troops now under orders shall reach Manila the force in the archipelago will comprise 2,051 officers and 63,483 men. The muster out of the great volunteer army organized for the Spanish war and the creation of a new army, the transportation from Manila to San Francisco of those entitled to discharge, and the transportation of the new troops to take their places have been a work of great magnitude well and ably done, for which too much credit cannot be given the War Department.

REDUCTION OF FORCES IN CUBA AND PORTO RICO.

"During the past year we have reduced our force in Cuba and Porto Rico. In Cuba we now have 324 officers and 10,796 enlisted men; in Porto Rico, 87 officers and 2,855 enlisted men and a battalion of 400 men composed of native Porto Ricans; while stationed throughout the United States are 910 officers and 17,317 men, and in Hawaii 12 officers and 453 enlisted men.

OFFICERS AND MEN COMMENDED.

"The operations of the army are fully presented in the report of the Secretary of War. I cannot withhold from officers and men the highest commendation for their soldierly conduct in trying situations, their willing sacrifices for their country, and the integrity and ability with which they have performed unusual and difficult duties in our island possessions. In the organization of the volunteer regiments authorized by the act of March 2, 1899, it was found that no provision had been made for chaplains. This omission was doubtless from inadvertence. I recommend the early authorization for the appointment of one chaplain for each of said regiments. These regiments are now in the Philippines, and it is important that immediate action be had.

THE NAVY.

"The Navy has maintained the spirit and high efficiency which have always characterized that service, and has lost none of the gallantry in heroic action which has signalized its brilliant and glorious past. The nation has equal pride in its early and later achievements. Its habitual readiness for every emergency has won the confidence and admiration of the country. The people are interested in the continued preparation and prestige of the navy and will justify liberal appropriations for its maintenance and improvement. The officers have shown peculiar adaptation for performance of new and delicate duties which our recent war has imposed.

THE PHILIPPINES.

A considerable portion of the message is devoted to the Philippine Islands. The President reviews the manner in which we acquired possession of these islands, and says he had every reason to believe and still believes that this transfer of sovereignty was in accordance with the wishes of the aspirations of the great mass of the Philippine people. From the earliest moment no opportunity was lost of assuring the people of the islands of our ardent desire for their welfare and of the intention of this government to do everything possible to advance their interests. The President quotes from his early orders to the commanders of the forces of occupation to impress this fact upon the people and reviews at some length the appointment and work of the Philippine commission, from whose report he quotes. A copy of the report is transmitted to Congress. The claim of the rebel leader that he was promised independence by any officer of the United States in return for his assistance, has no foundation in fact and is categorically denied by the very witnesses who were called to prove it. The most the insurgent leader hoped for when he came back to Manila was the liberation of the islands from Spanish control, which they had been laboring for years without success to throw off." Continuing the President says:

THE REBELLION MUST BE PUT DOWN.

"The rebellion must be put down. Civil government cannot be thoroughly established until order is restored. With a devotion and gallantry worthy of its most brilliant history, the army, ably and loyally assisted by the navy, has carried on this unwelcome, but most righteous campaign, with richly deserved success. The noble self-sacrifice with which our soldiers and sailors, whose terms of service had expired, refused to avail themselves of their right to return home as long as they were needed at the front, forms one of the brightest pages of our annals. Although their operations have been somewhat interrupted and checked by a rainy season of unusual violence and duration, they have gained ground steadily in every direction, and now look forward confidently to a speedy completion of their task.

PROSPERITY AND FREEDOM COMING.

"Everything indicates that with the speedy suppression of the Tagalo rebellion life in the archipelago will soon resume its ordinary course under the protection of our sovereignty, and the people of those favored islands will enjoy a prosperity and a freedom which they have never before known. Already hundreds of schools are open and filled with children. Religious freedom is sacredly assured and enjoyed. The courts are dispensing justice. Business is beginning to circulate in its accustomed channels. Manila, whose inhabitants were fleeing to the country a few months ago, is now a populous and thriving part of commerce. The earnest and unremitting endeavors of the commission and the admiral and major general commanding the Department of the Pacific to assure the people of the beneficent intentions of this government, have had their legitimate effect in convincing the great mass of them that peace and safety and prosperity and stable government can only be found in a loyal acceptance of the authority of the United States.

ABANDONMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES IMPOSSIBLE.

"The future government of the Philippines rests with the Congress of the United States. Few graver responsibilities have ever been confirmed to us. If we accept them in a spirit worthy of our race and our traditions, a great opportunity comes with them. The islands lie under the shelter of our flag. They are ours by every title of law and equity. They cannot be abandoned. If we desert them we leave them at once to anarchy and finally to barbarism. We fling them, a golden apple of discord, among the rival powers, no one of which could permit another to seize them unquestioned. Their rich plains and valleys would be the scene of endless strife and bloodshed. The advent of Dewey's fleet in Manila Bay, instead of being, as we hope, the dawn of a new day of freedom and progress, will have been the beginning of an era of misery and violence worse than any which has darkened their unhappy past. The suggestion has been made that we could renounce our authority over the islands and, giving them independence, could retain a protectorate over them. This proposition will not be found, I am sure, worthy of your serious attention. Such an arrangement would involve at the outset a cruel breach of faith. It would place the peaceable and loyal majority, who ask nothing better than to accept our authority, at the mercy of the minority of armed insurgent leaders. It would make us responsible for the acts of the insurgent leaders and give us no power to control them. It would charge us with the task of protecting them against each other, and defending them against any foreign power with which they chose to quarrel. In short, it would take from the Congress of the United States the power of declaring war and vest that tremendous prerogative in the Tagal leader of the hour.

HOW THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE BUILT UP.

"It does not seem desirable that I should recommend at this time a specific and final form of government for these islands. When peace shall be restored it will be the duty of Congress to construct a plan of government which shall establish and maintain freedom and order and peace in the Philippines. The insurrection is still existing, and when it terminates further, information will be required as to the actual condition of affairs before inaugurating a permanent scheme of civil government. The full report of the commission, now in preparation, will contain information and suggestions which will be of value to Congress, and which I will transmit as soon as it is completed. As long as the insurrection continues, the military arm must necessarily be supreme. But there is no reason why steps should not be taken from time to time to inaugurate governments essentially popular in their form as fast as territory is held and controlled by our troops. To this end,

A PROGRAMME OF GOOD WORK.

"No effort will be spared to build up the waste places desolated by war and by long years of misgovernment. We shall not wait for the end of strife to begin the beneficent work. We shall continue, as we have begun, to open the schools and the churches, to set the courts in operation, to foster industry and trade and agriculture, and in every way in our power to make these people whom providence has brought within our jurisdiction feel that it is their liberty and not our power, their welfare and not our gain, we are seeking to enhance. Our flag has never waved over any community but in blessing. I believe the Filipinos will soon recognize the fact that it has not lost its gift of benediction in its world-wide journey to their shores."

THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Concerning the Hawaiian Islands the President says: "The people of these islands are entitled to the benefits and privileges of our constitution, but in the absence of any act of Congress providing for Federal Courts in the islands, and for procedure by which appeals, writs of error, and other judicial proceedings necessary for the enforcement of civil rights may be prosecuted, they are powerless to secure their enforcement by the judgment of the courts of the United States. It is manifestly important, therefore, that an act shall be passed as speedily as possible erecting these islands into a judicial district, providing for the appointment of a judge and other proper officers and methods of procedure in appellate proceedings, and that the government of this newly acquired territory under the Federal constitution shall be fully defined and provided for."

A PARAGRAPH AS TO LYNCHING.

"What I said in my inaugural address of March 4, 1897, I now repeat; 'The constituted authorities must be cheerfully and vigorously upheld. Lynchings must not be tolerated in a great and civilized country like the United States. Courts, not mobs, must execute the penalties of the laws. The preservation of public order, the right of discussion, the integrity of the courts, and the orderly administration of justice must continue forever the rock of safety upon which our government securely rests.'

OUR LITTLE AFFAIR WITH THE SULTAN OF JOLO.

"The authorities of the Sulu Islands have accepted the succession of the United States to the rights of Spain, and our flag floats over that territory. On the 10th of August, 1899, Brigadier General J. C. Bates, of the United States volunteers, negotiated an agreement with the Sultan and his principal chiefs which I transmit herewith. By article 1, the sovereignty of the United States over the whole archipelago of Jolo and its dependencies is declared and acknowledged. The United States flag will be used in the archipelago and its dependencies on land and sea. Piracy is to be suppressed, and the Sultan agrees to co-operate heartily with the United States authorities to that end and to make every possible effort to arrest and bring to justice all persons engaged in piracy. All trade in domestic products of the archipelago of Jolo, when carried on with any part of the Philippine Islands, and under the American flag, shall be free, unlimited, and undutiable. The United States will give full protection to the Sultan in case any foreign nation should attempt to impose upon him. The United States will not sell the island of Jolo, or any other island of the Jolo archipelago to any foreign nation, without the consent of the Sultan. Salaries for the Sultan and his associates in the administration of the island have been agreed upon to the amount of $760 monthly. Article X provides that any slave in the archipelago of Jolo shall have the right to purchase freedom by paying to the master the usual market value. The agreement by General Bates was made subject to confirmation by the President, and to future modifications by the Congress. I have confirmed said agreement subject to the action of the Congress, and with the reservation, which I have directed shall be communicated to the Sultan of Jolo, that this agreement is not to be deemed in any way to authorize or give the consent of the United States to the existence of slavery in the Sulu archipelago. I communicate these facts to the Congress for its information and action.

THE CABLE TO MANILA.

The President invites attention to the necessity of a cable to Manila, without repeating the observations in his special message February 10, 1899. The new treaty of commerce and navigation between this country and Japan has given rise to no material complaints on the part of the American citizens or interests. "The year has been marked by constant increase in the intimacy of our relations with Mexico and in the magnitude of mutually advantageous interchanges. This government has omitted no opportunity to show its strong desire to develop and perpetuate the ties of cordiality now so long happily unbroken. The extradition of Mrs. Mattie Rich, a citizen of the United States, charged with homicide committed in Mexico, was after mature consideration directed by me in the conviction that the ends of justice would be thereby subserved. Similar action, on appropriate occasion, by the Mexican executive will not only tend to accomplish the desire of both governments that grave crimes go not unpunished, but also to repress lawlessness along the border of the two countries."

TURKISH SITUATION NOT SATISFACTORY.

In the Turkish Empire the situation of our citizens remains unsatisfactory. The arbitrary treatment in some instances of American productions in Turkey has attracted attention of late, notably in regard to our flour. This government will use its earnest efforts to secure fair and equal treatment for its citizens and their goods. Failing in this, it will not hesitate to apply whatever corrective may be provided by the statutes.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF WASHINGTON'S DEATH.

"The 14th of December will be the 100th anniversary of the death of Washington. For a hundred years the republic has held the priceless advantage of the lofty standard of character and conduct which he bequeathed to the American people. It is an inheritance which time, instead of wasting, continually increases and enriches. We may justly hope that in the years to come the benignant influence of the Father of His Country may be even more potent for good than in the century which is drawing to a close. We have been glad to learn that in many parts of the country the people will fittingly observe this historic anniversary.

GOVERNMENT FOR PORTO RICO.

For the government of Porto Rico, the President recommends that Congress pass a law for the organization of a temporary government, which shall provide for the appointment by the President, subject to confirmation by the Senate, for a Governor and officers as the general administration of the islands may require, and that for legislative purposes upon subjects of a local nature not partaking of a Federal character, a legislative council, composed partly of Porto Ricans and partly of citizens of the United States, shall be nominated and appointed by the President, subject to confirmation by the Senate, their acts to be subject to the approval of the Congress, or the President, prior to going into effect. In the municipalities and other local subdivisions he recommends that the principle of local self-government be applied at once, so as to enable the intelligent citizens of the island to participate in their own government and to learn by practical experience the duties and requirements of a self-contained and self-governed people. The love of law and the sense of obedience and submission to the lawfully constituted judicial tribunals are embedded in the hearts of our people, and any violation of these sentiments and disregard of their obligations justly arouses public condemnation.

AGUINALDO'S DEFEAT THE TRUEST KINDNESS.

"Until Congress shall have made known the formal expression of its will, I shall use the authority vested in me by the constitution and the statutes to uphold the sovereignty of the United States in those distant islands, as in all other places where our flag rightfully floats. I shall put at the disposal of the army and navy all the means which the liberality of Congress and the people have provided to cause this unprovoked and wasteful insurrection to cease.

IN CONCLUSION.

"Presented to this Congress are great opportunities. With them come great responsibilities. The power confided to us increases the weight of our obligations to the people, and we must be profoundly sensible of them as we contemplate the new and grave problems which confront us. Aiming only at the public good, we cannot err. A right interpretation of the people's will and of duty cannot fail to insure wise measures for the welfare of the islands which have come under the authority of the United States, and inure to the common interest and lasting honor of our country. Never has this nation had more abundant cause than during the past year for thankfulness to God for manifold blessings and mercies, for which we make reverent acknowledgment. WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

"Executive Mansion, Dec. 5, 1899."

KILLED IN BATTLE.

Chief of Aguinaldo's Body Guard Brought Down.

END OF GENERAL DEL PILAR.

News Brought By Spanish Prisoners Who Escaped In The Confusion Following the Fight.

Manila, By Cable.—General Gregorio del Pilar, commanding Aguinaldo's body guard, was killed by Major Peyton C. March's battalion of the Thirty-third Infantry, in a fight 18 miles northwest of Cerventas, on December 3rd. According to reports which General Young obtained from escaped Spanish prisoners at Vigan, several days ago, Major March left the coast, where he was pursuing Aguinaldo and encountered General Del Pilar on the fortified trail. They fought for four hours, during which time seventy Filipinos were killed or wounded. The American loss was one man killed and six wounded. The Spaniards report that Major March is still pursuing the insurgents. Del Pilar was one of the leadingers of the present and of the anti-Spanish revolution. He was a mere youth and was reported to have graduated at an European University. Prof. Schuman met him as a member of the first peace commission, and rated him as remarkably clever.

The Americans have occupied Bangued, province of Abra. General Grant's expedition has visited Orania and several western towns, meeting small bands. He killed several of the rebels and captured a considerable quantity of munitions of war.

Bishop Henry C. Potter, of New York, has arrived here on a brief visit, to study the Philippines.

Washington, D. C., Special.—The War Department has received the following from General Otis:

"Manila, Dec. 9.

"Dispatch from Young at Vigar, yesterday, says, escaped Spanish prisoners report a four hours' engagement on the 3rd instant, between his troops and Aguinaldo's guard, near Cervantes, 50 miles southeast of Gigan, with heavy loss to the enemy, who is being pursued. Our loss was one killed, six wounded. The inhabitants of their own accord joined the troops in repairing the trail and carrying subsistence. Have pushed the column to San Jose, south of Bangued, Howse's column is on the rear trail; Batcheler's battalion of the Twenty-fourth is out of reach, north of Bayombong, evidently descending the river. The natives report that fighting occurred 20 miles north. The navy reaches Aparri to-morrow. A column of MacArthur's troops of the Twenty-fifth Infantry is reported near Iba on the west coast of Zambales; Grant's column is near Subig Bay; Lawton is in Bulucan province to-day, with sufficient troops to overcome opposition and scatter the enemy."

It is probable that the troops which engaged Aguinaldo's guard are Hare's command, as he was reported to be close to the insurgent leader's rear. General Otis also cables as follows, regarding the revolt in Negros:

"Information received is that the Negros revolt is of minor importance; Byrnes is in rapid pursuit of the disaffected party; Hughes is in the mountains of Panay en route to Capiz."

Telegraphic Briefs.

After being in power for many years, the Liberal party in the Province of Manitoba was defeated by the Conservatives in Thursday's legislative election, 24 of the latter being elected, against 14 Liberals.

Samuel G. Brooker, former City Auditor's Clerk, at Cleveland, O., was arrested charged with malfeasance in office.

Aerated distilled water is exempt from tax, even if advertised as a remedy or cosmetic.

Representative Hitt of Illinois, has introduced a bill to provide a territorial form of government for Hawaii.

Boer Guns Captured.

Boer Head Laager, Ladysmith, By Cable.—The British troops made a sortie between 1 and 2 o'clock Friday morning. They crawled up a ravine and stormed and carried Lombard's Kop, which was held by the Boers and on which were placed a Crousot gun and a howitzer. These guns were destroyed with dynamite. The British captured a Maxim gun and then retired. The Lancers, Hussars and Guards made a sortie west of Ladysmith at daybreak under cover of a heavy artillery fire, which the Boers returned briskly. The British afterwards returned to Ladysmith. The Boer losses are reported to have been slight.

A Cotton Gin Trust.

Memphis, Tenn., Special.—It is stated here that all the big cotton gin manufacturing concerns of the country will form a combination, or have already formed one. Among the concerns which are said to have entered the combination are the Munger Company, of Texas, the largest in the world; the Northington-Munger-Pratt Gin Company, of Birmingham, Ala., and the Daniel Pratt Gin Company, of Pratsville, Ala.

Taylor Gets Certificate.

Frankfort, Ky., Special.—At 9:45 Saturday morning, the election certificate of Wm. S. Taylor, was signed by the election commissioners, and he was declared to be Governor-elect of Kentucky. The official figures of the vote filed with the Secretary of State are: Taylor 193,714; Goebel 191,331. Taylor's plurality is 2,383. The operation, which ended for the time being at least the bitterly fought gubernatorial contest, was conducted in the simplest manner

THE NATIONAL LAW MAKERS.

What Congress is Doing From Day to Day.

First Day.—Congress met in regular session at noon. The capitol was crowded, and the galleries of both House and Senate were well filled.

The Senate was called to order by President pro tem. Fry, of Maine. The blind chaplain, Dr. W. H. Milburn, offered an appropriate prayer.

Thirty newly-elected Senators were sworn in.

IN THE HOUSE.

All the galleries of the House overflowed, and hundreds were denied admission. Miss Ada Roberts, daughter of the noted Mormon representative, had a prominent seat in the gallery.

Representative Harmer of Pennsylvania, the "Father of the House," swore in the new speaker.

The Senate.

Second Day.—Today's session of the Senate lasted two hours and forty minutes, practically the entire time being consumed in the reading of the President's message. The reading of the document was largely perfunctory, few of the Senators according it any attention. Some of them retired to their committee rooms to peruse the message at leisure, while a few followed the reading by the clerks. Mr. Turley, of Tennessee, presented his colleague, Mr. Bate, at the desk of the President, and President Frye administered to Mr. Bate the oath of office. The announcement of the death of Senator-elect Monroe L. Hayward, of Nebraska, was received by the Senate with sincere regret. Although he was not officially a member of that body, he was known to many of the Senators and by them was held in high regard. At the conclusion of the reading of the message, the Senate adopted resolutions of regret, presented by Senator Thurston, of Nebraska, and as a mark of respect adjourned immediately.

Third day.—Nearly 800 bills and joint resolutions, several important concurrent resolutions and petitions numbering hundreds, were presented to the Senate. Mr. Aldrich had the honor of introducing the first measure in the Senate. It was the financial bill drawn by the Senate committee on finance, of which Mr. Aldrich is chairman and probably was the most important measure introduced during the day. Mr. Harris, Populist, of Kansas, was appointed a temporary member of the committee on privileges and elections. Senator Chandler introduced bills applying the customs and internal revenue laws of the United States to the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico, after January 1, 1900. Goods between the islands and the United States are to be exchanged as between the States. A resolution was introduced by Mr. Clay, of Georgia, providing for the election of Senators by the people. The Senate at 2:20 p. m., went into executive session, and at 2:56 p. m. adjourned.

Fourth Day.—Routine proceedings of the Senate were enlivened by a colloquy between Mr. Chandler, of New Hampshire, and Mr. Hale, of Maine, over a bill introduced by the former to promote athletic sports at the Military Academy, at West Point, and the Naval Academy at Anapolis.

FIFTH DAY.—The House adopted a special order for the consideration of the currency bill, beginning next Monday. By the terms of the order the general debate will continue until Friday. On Saturday amendments may be offered under the 5-minute rule and on the following Monday the vote will be taken. The Democrats, Populists and silverites presented a solid front against the adoption of the resolution and every Republican voted for it.

The House.

Second Day.—After an interesting debate of three hours, the House today, by a vote of 302 to 30, adopted the resolution offered by Mr. Taylor, of Ohio, yesterday for the appointment of a special committee to investigate the charges against Brigham H. Roberts, the Mormon Representative-elect from Utah. By the terms of the resolution Mr. Roberts is not only excluded from all participation in the proceedings of the House until the committee reports, and the House passes upon his case, but he is denied a seat in the hall.

The Speaker then appointed the following members as the special committee under the resolution: Republicans, Taylor, of Ohio, chairman; Landis, of Indiana; Morris, of Tennessee; Freer, of West Virgina; Littlefield, of Maine; McPherson, of Iowa. Democrats, DeArmond, of Missouri; Lanham, of Texas, and Miers, of Indiana. The death of the late Representative Settle was then announced and at 6.25 as a further mark of respect the House adjourned until Thursday.

Third Day. — Representative Taylor, of Ohio, chairman of the special committee to investigate the case of Mr. Roberts, of Utah, called a meeting of the committee for 11 o'clock Thursday morning. Mr. Roberts was about the House during the day. There was no session and he was engaged most of the time in chatting with groups of members and visitors, who showed a friendly disposition toward him. He said he had no comment to make on the course of the House. He will probably look after his interest in person before the committee of inquiry.

Fourth Day.—The session of the House only lasted half an hour. Mr. Overstreet, in charge of the finance bill, attempted to reach an agreement for consideration next week, but Mr. Richardson, on behalf of the minority, rejected all proposals, on the ground that a bill as important as this should go through the regular channels. The special committee of the House appointed to investigate the charges against Mr. Roberts, the Mormon Representative from Utah, held its first meeting behind closed doors. The meeting was called for the purpose of determining the method of procedure in the case. It was held in the room of the committee on elections No. 1, and presided over by the chairman, Mr. Taylor, of Ohio. All the other members of the committee were present.

Fifth Day.—But a brief session of the Senate was held and no measure of general importance was under consideration. After some routine business the Senate adjourned.

Missed His Vacation.

Patient—You should have gone into the army, doctor.

Doctor—Why so?

Patient—Judging by the way you charge your friends you would be able to completely annihilate an enemy.

THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

The South.

C. M. Harper, the Pioneer's Point real estate man, who shot and killed David Ross, Friday, was bailed in the sum of $5,000, to await the action of the grand jury, to await the action upon his bond.

A movement is on foot in New Orleans, backed by Eastern capital, to purchase and consolidate the rice milling industry of that city. A circular letter has been issued to mill owners asking for 90 days options on their plants. There are thirteen mills in New Orleans. Those who are interested in the undertaking decline to give out details.

Jim Mayfield, at Atlanta, Ga., shot and killed Lucy Carbon and her child in arms.

The Republic Iron and Steel Company is erecting a second blooming mill at Birminghaus, Ala.

The pathological department of Johns Hopkins University, at Baltimore, Md., has begun the study of bubonic plague and beri beri germs.

The North.

The finish score of the bicycle races at Madison Square Garden was: Miller-Waller, 2733.4; Maya-McEachern, 2733.3; Gimm-Pierce, 2733.1; Fischer-Chevalier, 2732.9; Stevens-Turville, 2732.7; Babcock-Stinson, 2722.2; Schineer-Forster, 2465.5.

President McKinley is anxious to reconcile the Republican factions in Maryland so as to secure a united party in this State in the National election next year.

Representative Roberts, of Utah, has issued an address to the people of the United States protesting against the method adopted by the House of Representatives to exclude him from his seat.

Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General Bristow denies that polygamist have been appointed to office in Utah by the administration.

Of 600 girls in a hosiery factory at Reading, Pa., set on fire by a gasoline explosion scores were obliged to jump from windows. One was cremated and 30 seriously injured.

Peter A. B. Widener, of Philadelphia, announced his intention of founding a home for crippled children in that city at a cost of $2,000,000.

The Molineux trial was continued at New York.

The western football championship goes to Chicago. The eleven of the University of Chicago defeated the University of Wisconsin team by a score of 17 to 0 in a desperately played game.

Rev. John Reid, of Detroit, Mich., has been called to the Memorial Presbyterian Church, at New York.

The Chicopee and Dwight Mills, at Ch