

THE MESSAGE

President McKinley's Address to Congress

INTERESTING DOCUMENT UPON NATIONAL TOPICS

Review of the First Steps of the War - Wrecking of the Maine - Rupture of Relations - Hobson's Valor - Peace Negotiations - Big Standing Army Recommended - Annexation of Hawaii, Etc., Etc.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—On the convening of congress today, President McKinley transmitted his annual message, which follows:

To the Senate and House of Representatives: Notwithstanding the added burdens rendered necessary by the war our people rejoice in a very satisfactory and steadily increasing degree of prosperity evidenced by the greatest volume of business ever recorded. Manufacture has been productive, agriculture has yielded abundant returns, labor in the fields of industry is better rewarded, revenue legislation passed by the present congress has increased the treasury's receipts to the amount expected by its authors, the finances of the government have been successfully administered, its credit advanced to the first rank, while its currency has been maintained at the world's highest standard.

Military service under a common flag for a righteous cause has strengthened the national spirit and served to cement more closely than ever the fraternal bonds between every section of the country. A review of the relations of the United States to other powers, always appropriate, is this year of primary importance in view of the momentous issues which have arisen, demanding in one instance the ultimate determination by arms and involving trenching consequences which will require the closest attention of the congress.

First Steps in the War

In my last annual message very full consideration was given to the question of the duty of the government of the United States towards Spain and the Cuban insurrection as being by far the most important problem with which we were then called upon to deal. The considerations then advanced and the exposition of the views therein expressed disclosed my sense of the extreme gravity of the situation.

Setting aside as logically unfounded or practically inadvisable, the recognition of the independence of Cuba, neutral intervention to end the war by imposing a rational compromise between the contestants, intervention in favor of one or the other party, and forcible annexation of the island, I concluded, was honestly due to our friendly relations with Spain, that she should be given a reasonable chance to realize her expectations of reform to which she had become irrevocably committed.

The ensuing month brought little sign of real progress toward the pacification of Cuba. No tangible relief was afforded the vast numbers of unhappy reconcentrados despite the reiterated professions made in that regard and the amount appropriated by Spain to that end. By the middle of December the mortality among them had frightfully increased. Conservative estimates from Spanish sources placed the deaths among these distressed people at over 40 per cent from the time General Weyler's decree of reconcentration was enforced.

The war continued on the old footing without comprehensive encounters, barren of strategic result, that had marked the course of the conflict in the past. It was as if the present insurrection from its start. No alternative save physical exhaustion of either combatant and therewith the practical ruin of the island lay in sight, not far distant no one could venture to conjecture.

Blowing Up of the Maine

On this juncture, on Feb. 15, last, occurred the destruction of the battleship Maine, while rightfully lying in the harbor of Havana on a mission of international courtesy and good will—a catastrophe the suspicious nature and horror of which stirred the nation's heart profoundly. It is a striking evidence of the poise and sturdy good sense distinguishing our national character that this shocking blow, falling upon our generous people already deeply grieved by preceding events in Cuba, did not move them to an instant, desperate resolve to tolerate no longer the existence of a condition of danger and disorder at our doors that made possible such a deed by whomsoever wrought. Yet by instinct of justice prevailed and the nation anxiously awaited the result of the searching investigation at once set on foot. The finding of the naval board of inquiry established that the origin of the explosion was external by a submarine mine, the only halted through lack of positive testimony to fix the responsibility of its authorship. All these things carried conviction to the most thoughtful, even before the finding of the naval court, that a crisis in our relations with Spain and toward Cuba was at hand. So strong was this belief that it needed but a brief executive suggestion to the congress to receive immediate answer to the duty of making instant provision for the possible and perhaps speedily probable emergency.

And the remarkable, almost unique spectacle was presented of a unanimous vote of both houses on March 9 appropriating \$50,000,000 for the national defense and for each and every purpose connected therewith to be expended at the discretion of the president.

Still animated by the hope of a peaceful solution and obeying the dictates of duty, no effort was spared to bring a speedy ending of the Cuban struggle.

Grieved and disappointed at the barren outcome of my sincere endeavors to reach a practicable solution, I felt it my duty to remit the whole question to congress. The congress was asked to authorize and empower the president to take measures to secure a full and final termination of hostilities between Spain and the people of Cuba.

After nine days of earnest deliberation, during which the almost unanimous sentiment of your body was developed on every point save as to the expediency of coupling the proposed action with a formal recognition of the republic of Cuba the true and lawful government of that island—a proposition which failed of adoption—the congress, on April 19, by a vote of 42 to 35 in the senate and 311 to 61 in the house of representatives, passed the memorable joint resolution declaring the people of Cuba free and independent, demanding that the island and empowering the president to use the entire land and sea forces of the United States to that end.

This resolution was approved by the executive on the next day, April 20. A copy was at once communicated to the Spanish minister at this capital who forthwith announced that his continuance in Washington had thereby become impossible, and asked for his passports, which were given him. Simultaneously and in communication with the Spanish minister, General Woodford, the American minister at Madrid, was telegraphed confirmation of the text of the joint resolution and directed to communicate it to the government of Spain with the formal declaration of its independence and its authority and government in the island of Cuba and withdraw its forces therefrom.

Rupture of Relations

That demand, although, as above shown, officially made known to the Spanish envoy here, was not delivered at Madrid. After the instructions reached General Woodford on the morning of April 21, but before he could present it, the Spanish minister of state notified him that upon the president's approval of the joint resolution, the Madrid government regarding the act as "equivalent to an evident declaration of war," had ordered its minister in Washington to withdraw, thereby breaking off diplomatic relations between the two countries. General Woodford thereupon demanded his passports and quitted Madrid the same day.

Spain having thus denied the demand of the United States and initiated that complete form of rupture of relations which attends a state of war, the executive powers authorized by the resolution were at once used by the president to enlarge the contingency of actual war between sovereign states. By my message of April 25 the congress was informed of the situation and I recommended formal declaration of the independence of a state of war between the United States and Spain. The congress accordingly voted on the same day the act approved April 25, 1898, declaring the existence of such a war from and including April 21 and re-enacted the act of April 20.

It is not within the province of this message to narrate the history of the extraordinary attack upon the Spanish fleet, the declaration of April 21, but a brief recital of its more salient features is appropos. The first encounter of the war in point of date took place April 27, when a detachment of the United States fleet made a reconnaissance in force at Matanzas, shelled the harbor forts and demolished several *no* works in construction.

The next engagement was destined to mark a memorable epoch in maritime warfare. The Pacific fleet under Commodore George Dewey had lain for some weeks at Kong-Kong. Upon the colonial proclamation of neutrality being issued and the customary 24 hours notice being given, it repaired to Mirs bay near Hong-Kong whence it proceeded to the Philippine islands under telegraphic orders to capture or destroy the formidable Spanish fleet then assembled at Manila. At daybreak on the morning of May 1 the American force entered Manila bay and after a few hours engagement effected the total destruction of the Spanish fleet, consisting of ten warships and a transport, besides capturing the naval station and forts. The Spanish fleet, including the Spanish naval power in the Pacific ocean and completely controlling the bay of Manila with the ability to take the city at will.

Following the comprehensive scheme of the capture of the forts, the Spanish fleet assembled at various points on our coast to invade Cuba and Porto Rico. Meanwhile naval demonstrations were adopted at several exposed points.

Young Hobson's Brave Deed

The next acts of the war thrilled not only the hearts of our countrymen, but the world by its heroism. On the night of June 3, Lieutenant Hobson, aided by seven devoted volunteers, blocked the narrow outlet at Santiago harbor, by sinking the collier Merrimac in the channel under a fire from the shore batteries, escaping with their lives as by a miracle, but falling in the hands of the Spanish fleet, they were subsequently exchanged.

On June 22, the advance of the invading army under Major General Shafter landed at Daiquiri, about 15 miles east of Santiago. On July 1 a severe battle took place, our forces capturing the forts at Santiago. On the second El Caney and San Juan were taken after a desperate charge and the investment of the city completed.

On the day following the brilliant achievement of our land force, July 3, occurred the capture of the forts at Santiago. The Spanish fleet, attempting to leave the harbor, was met by the American squadron under command of Commodore Sampson. In less than three hours all the Spanish ships were destroyed, the two torpedo boats being sunk and the Maria Teresa, Almirante Oquendo, Viscaya and Cristobal Colon driven ashore. The Spanish admiral and over 1,300 men were taken prisoners, while the enemy's loss of life was deplorably large, some 600 perishing. On our side but one man was killed and one seriously wounded.

With the catastrophe of Santiago Spain's power on the ocean virtually ceased. The capitulation of Santiago followed. The occupation of Porto Rico became the next strategic necessity. General Miles had previously been assigned to organize an expedition for that purpose. On July 27 he entered Ponce, one of the most important ports in the island, for which he thereafter directed operations for the capture of the island. The campaign was prosecuted with great vigor and by Aug. 12 much of the island was in our possession and the acquisition of the remainder was only a matter of a short time.

The Partition of China

of state, Cushman K. Davis, William P. Fry and George Gray, senators of the United States, and William H. Taft, the peace commissioners on the part of the United States. Proceeding in due time to Paris, they met on Oct. 1 five commissioners similarly appointed of the part of Spain. The negotiations have made hopeful progress so that I trust soon to be able to lay a definite treaty before the senate with a view of the steps leading to its signature.

I do not discuss at this time the government or the future of the new possessions which will come to us as the result of the war with Spain. Such discussion will be appropriate after the treaty of peace shall be ratified. In the meantime, and until the congress has legislated otherwise, it will be my duty to continue the military governments which have existed since our occupation and give to the people security in life and property and encouragement under a just and beneficent rule.

As soon as the government of Cuba and have pacified the island it will be necessary to give aid and decision to its people to form a government of themselves. It should be undertaken at the earliest moment consistent with safety and security. It is important that our relations with these people shall be of the most friendly character and our commercial relations close and reciprocal. It should be our duty to assist in every proper way to build up the waste places of the island, encourage the industry of the people and assist them to form a government which shall be free and independent, thus realizing the best aspirations of the Cuban people. Spanish rule must be replaced by a just, benevolent and humane government, one which will protect the people of Cuba, capable of performing all international obligations, and which shall encourage thrift, industry and prosperity and promote peace and good will among all the inhabitants, whatever may have been their relations in the past. Neither revenge nor passion should have a place in the new government. Until there is complete tranquility in the island and a stable government inaugurated military occupation will be continued.

The Lattimer Tragedy

On Sept. 10, 1897, a conflict took place at Lattimer, Pa., between a body of striking miners and the sheriff of Luzerne county and his deputies. In which 23 miners were killed and 44 others wounded, ten of the killed and 19 of the wounded were Austrians and Hungarians. This deplorable event naturally aroused the solicitude of the Austro-Hungarian government, which on the presumption that the killing and wounding involved the unjustifiable misuse of authority, claimed the searching investigation and perpetration of the authorities of Pennsylvania the federal executive took appropriate steps to learn the merits of the case in order to be in a position to meet the urgent complaint of a friendly power.

The sheriff and his deputies, having been indicted for murder, were tried and acquitted after protracted proceedings and the hearing of hundreds of witnesses on the ground that the killing was in the line of their official duty to uphold law and preserve public order in the state. A representative of the department of justice attended the trial and reported its course fully. With all the facts in its possession, this government expects to reach a harmonious understanding on the subject with that of the United States, notwithstanding the renewed claim of the latter, after learning the result of the trial, for indemnity for its injured subjects.

Nicaragua Canal Project

The Nicaragua canal commission, under the chairmanship of Rear Admiral John B. Water, reported to the president under the authority of a provision in the sundry civil act of June 4 of that year, has nearly completed its labors, and the results of its exhaustive inquiry into the proper route, the feasibility and the cost of construction of the same, as proposed by a Nicaraguan route will be laid before you.

As the scope of recent inquiry embraced the whole subject with the aim of making plans and surveys for a canal by the most convenient route, it necessarily included a review of the results of previous surveys and plans and in particular those adopted by the Maritime Canal company under its existing concessions from Nicaragua and Costa Rica, and the status quo until the canal commission shall have reported and the United States congress shall have had an opportunity to pass finally upon the whole matter, without prejudice by reason of any change in the existing conditions.

All these circumstances suggest the urgency of some definite action by the congress at this session if its labors of the past are to be utilized and the linking of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans by a practical waterway is to be realized. The construction of such a maritime highway is now more than ever indispensable to that intimate and ready intercommunication between our eastern and western seaboard demanded by the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands and the prospective expansion of our influence and commerce in the Pacific and that our national policy now more imperatively than ever calls for its control by this government, are propositions which I doubt not the congress will duly appreciate and wisely act upon.

The Partition of China

The United States has not been an indifferent spectator of the extraordinary events transpiring in the Chinese empire, whereby portions of its maritime provinces are passing under the control of various European powers, but the prospect that the vast commerce which is the energy of our citizens and the necessity of our staple production for Chinese uses has built up in those regions may not be prejudiced through any exclusive treatment by the new occupants has obtained the need of our country becoming an actor in the scene.

Our position among nations having a large Pacific coast, and a constantly expanding direct trade with the farther Orient, gives us the equitable claim to consideration and friendly treatment in this regard and it will be my aim to subserve our large interests in that quarter by all means appropriate to the constant policy of our government. The territories of Kiaochow, Wei-Hai-Wei and of Port Arthur and Talienwan, leased to Germany, Great Britain and Russia respectively for terms of years, will, it is announced, be open to international commerce during their occupation, and if no discriminating treatment of American citizens and their trade be found to exist or be hereafter developed, the desire of this government would appear to be realized. Meanwhile there may be just ground for disquietude in view of the arrest and revival of the old sentiment of opposition and prejudice to alien people which pervades certain of the Chinese provinces. As in the case of the attacks upon our citizens in Szechuan and at other points, the United States minister has been instructed to secure the fullest measure of protection, both local and imperial, for any menaced American interests and to demand, in case of lawless interference or property, instant reparation appropriate to the case. Warships have been stationed at Tien-Tsin for more ready observation of the disorders which have invaded the Chinese capital, so as to be in a position to act should need arise, and a force of marines has been sent to Peking to afford the minister the same measure of authoritative protection as the representatives of other nations have been constrained to employ.

There is now every prospect that the participation of the United States in the universal exposition to be held in Paris in 1900 will be on a scale commensurate with the advanced position held by our products and industries, the world's chief markets. The preliminary report of Moses P. Handy, who, under the act approved July 19, 1897, was appointed special commissioner with a view to securing all attainable information necessary to a full and complete understanding by congress in regard to the proposed participation of the United States in the Paris exposition, was laid before you by my message of Dec. 6, 1897, and showed the large opportunities to make known our national progress in the several departments of science, art, literature and industry, as well as the urgent need of immediate action to secure the obtainable due advantage thereof to be taken.

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Mr. Handy's death, soon afterward rendered it necessary for another to take up and complete the unfinished work, and on Jan. 11 last Mr. Thomas W. Crifler, third secretary of the department of agriculture, was appointed to fulfill that task. In provision in the sundry civil appropriation act of July 1, 1898 a sum not to exceed \$650,000 was allotted for the organization of a commission for the purpose of preparing and installation of American exhibits and for the display of suitable exhibits by the several departments of the government, particularly by the department of agriculture, the fish commission and the Smithsonian institution, in representation of the government of the United States. Pursuant to that enactment, I appointed Mr. Peck as chief commissioner, with an assistant commissioner general, with an assistant commissioner general and secretary. Mr. Peck at once proceeded to Paris, where his success in enlarging the scope and variety of the United States exhibits has been most gratifying, notwithstanding the comparatively limited area of the exposition space—less than one half that of the World's Fair at Chicago—the space assigned to the United States has been increased from an absolute allotment of 137,400 square feet to 200,000 square feet, with corresponding augmentation of the field for a truly characteristic representation of the various important branches of our country's development.

On the same date the amount of money of all kinds in circulation or not included in treasury holdings was \$185,794,900. Estimating our population at 75,194,000 at the time mentioned the per capita circulation was \$2.47.

On the same date there was in the treasury gold bullion amounting to \$138,522,545. The provisions made for strengthening the resources of the treasury in connection with the war has given increased confidence in the purpose and the power of the government to maintain the present standard both established more firmly than ever the national credit at home and abroad. A marked evidence of this is found in the inflow of gold to the treasury. In December, 1897, the gold receipts were \$239,833,160 as compared with \$133,573,147 on Nov. 1, 1897, and an increase of net cash of \$27,756,160. Nov. 1, 1897, to \$300,238,275 Nov. 1, 1898. The present ratio of net treasury gold outstanding government liabilities including United States notes, treasury notes of 1896, silver certificates, standard silver dollars and fractional silver coin Nov. 4, 1898, was 25.35 per cent as compared with 16.96 per cent Nov. 1, 1897.

Redemption of Notes

I renew so much of my recommendation of December, 1897, as relates to the redemption of United States notes as are presented for redemption in gold and are redeemed in gold such notes shall be kept and set apart and only paid out in exchange for gold. This is an obvious duty. If the holder of United States notes prefers the gold and gets it from the government he should not receive back from the government a United States note without paying gold in exchange for it.

The reason for this is made all the more apparent when the government issues an interest bearing debt to provide gold for the redemption of United States notes—a noninterest bearing debt. Surely it should not pay them out again except on demand and for gold. If they are put in any other way they may return again, to be followed by another bond issue to redeem them—another interest bearing debt to redeem a noninterest bearing debt.

This recommendation was made in the belief that such provisions of law would appear when the government issues the present standard and better protect our currency from the dangers to which it is subjected from a disturbance in the general business conditions of the country.

In my judgment the present condition of the treasury amply justifies the immediate enactment of the legislation recommended one year ago, under which a portion of the gold holdings should be placed in a trust fund, from which greenbacks should be redeemed upon presentation, but when once redeemed should not thereafter be paid out except for gold.

It is not to be inferred that other legislation relating to our currency is not required; on the contrary, there is an obvious need of adequate provision which will insure to our future a money standard, related as our money standard now is to that of our commercial rivals, is generally recognized. The compulsory proposition that our domestic paper currency shall be kept safe and yet be so related to the needs of our industries and internal commerce as to be adequate and responsive to such needs is a proposition scarcely less important. The subject, in all its parts, is commended to the wise consideration of the congress.

For a Big Standing Army

Under the act of congress approved April 28, 1898 authorizing the president, in his discretion, "upon a declaration of war by congress, or a declaration by congress that war exists," directed by congress that war exists," directed the increase of the regular army to the maximum of 62,000, authorized in said act.

There are now in the regular army 57,862 officers and men. In said act it was provided "that at the end of any war in which the United States may become involved the army shall be reduced to a peace basis by the transfer to the same arm of the service or absorption by promotion or honorable discharge under such regulations as the secretary of war may establish of supernumerary commissioned officers and the honorable discharge or transfer of supernumerary enlisted men, and nothing contained in this act shall be construed as authorizing the permanent increase of the commissioned or enlisted force of the regular army beyond that now provided by the law in force prior to the passage of this act, except as to the increase of 25 majors provided for in section 1 hereof."

The importance of legislation for the permanent increase of the army is there fore manifest and the recommendation of the secretary of war for that purpose has my unqualified approval. There can be no question that at this time and probably for some time to come, the army will be none too large to meet the necessities of the situation. At all events, whether that number shall be required permanently or not, the power should be given to the president to enlist, or to recruit, if in his discretion it should be necessary, and the further discretion should be given him to recruit for the army within the above limit from the inhabitants of the islands with the government of which we are charged.

It is my purpose to muster out the entire volunteer army as soon as the regular establishment for the increase of the army shall be provided. This will be only an apt and just recognition of the services of the brave men who left their homes and employment to help the country in its emergency.

Washington's Centennial

In the year 1900 will occur the centennial anniversary of the founding of the city of Washington for the permanent capital of the government of the United States by an act of congress approved July 16, 1790. In May 1800 the archives and general offices of the federal government were removed to this place. On Nov. 17, 1800, the national congress met here for the first time and assumed exclusive control of the federal district and city. This interesting event assumes all the more significance when we recall the circumstances attending the founding of the city in honor of the father of his country and the interest taken by him in the project for this purpose and the appointment of a committee from its respective bodies, might be advisedly be made a committee from the country at large, which, acting with the congressional and District of Columbia committees, can complete the plans for an appropriate national celebration.

Pension Statistics

There were on the pension rolls on June 30, 1898, 968,714 names, an increase of nearly 18,000 over the number of the rolls for the same day of the preceding year. The amount appropriated by the act of Dec. 22, 1896, for the payment of pensions for the fiscal year 1898 was \$140,000,000. By the act of March 31, 1898, \$8,707,872.40 was appropriated to cover the deficit of the pension fund and repayments in the sum of \$12,020.35, making a total of \$148,682,892.75 available for the payment of pensions during the fiscal year 1898. The amount disbursed from that sum was \$144,831,870, leaving a balance of \$3,851,022.75 unexpended on June 30, 1898, which was covered into the treasury.

There were 389 men added to the rolls during the year by special acts at the second session of the Fifty-fifth congress, making a total of 4,466 pensioners by congressional enactments since 1861.

Supreme Courtroom

I deem it my duty to call to the attention of congress the condition of the great building occupied by the department of justice. A proper regard for the safety, comfort and convenience of the officers and employes would justify the expenditure of a liberal sum of money in the erection of a new building.

The Twelfth Census

I earnestly urge upon congress the importance of early legislation providing for the taking of the twelfth census. This is necessary in view of the large amount of work which must be performed in the preparations of schedules preparatory to the enumeration of the population.

Admiral and Vice Admiral

I join with the secretary of the navy in recommending that the grades of admiral and vice admiral be temporarily revived, to be filled by officers who have specially distinguished themselves in the war with Spain.

Alien Contract Law

The alien contract law is shown by experience to need some amendment; a measure providing better protection for the seaman is proposed; the rightful application of the law is suggested; the labor and of the principle of arbitration are suggested for consideration and I commend these subjects to the careful attention of the congress.

The several departmental reports will be laid before you. They give in great detail the conduct of the affairs of the government during the year past and discuss many questions upon which the congress may be called upon to act. (Signed.) WILLIAM MCKINLEY, Executive Mansion, Dec. 5, 1898.

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The Fifty-Sixth Congress

SOLONS REASSEMBLE AND BEGIN BUSINESS AT THE OLD STAND.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE READ

The Opening of the Session Was Under Circumstances of Unusual Public Interest—An Ovation to Wheeler.

A Washington special says: Congress reassembled a noon Monday under circumstances of unusual public interest. The sixty-sixth congress six months ago declared war against Spain, and now, war fought and won, it came together again for the first legislative consideration of the questions developed by the eventful months just past.

There were more than the usual number of distinguished persons present in the thronged galleries, including many representatives of foreign governments, high officials and ladies and gentlemen conspicuous in social and political life. The greetings of the members were most cordial, and there was no outcropping of partisan rancor to mar the occasion.

One of the most striking incidents was the cordial meeting between the floor leaders of the respective sides, Messrs. Dingkey and Bailey. In view of the gossip about the possibility of Mr. Bailey being deposed as the minority leader, it is significant that the speaker named Mr. Bailey as the minority member of the committee to wait upon the president, an honor always bestowed upon the recognized leader of the minority.

Speaker Reed received a warm welcome from both sides of the house when he ascended the rostrum to call the house to order. But perhaps the greatest personal ovation to any member was that given to Major General Wheeler, of Alabama, who has not been seen by many of his colleagues since he went to the front at the head of the cavalry division of General Shafter's army.

The floral tributes were unusually numerous and made the hall a veritable bower of beautiful flowers. The proceedings themselves were dull, all interest centering in a recital of the president's message. Two hours the clerk droned through the long document, but the interest never flagged.

The president's review of the causes leading up to the war, the manner in which the preparations for hostilities were made, and the succession of victories on land and sea were listened to with rapt attention. The other provisions of the message were followed with almost as much interest. There was no expression of approval or disapproval through the reading.

As soon as the reading was concluded the message was ordered printed, and then, at 3:50 o'clock p. m., the house adjourned.

IN THE SENATE

When the senate convened Monday to begin the closing session of the fifty-sixth congress the chamber presented a notable and beautiful appearance. By 11 o'clock the public and private galleries were filled almost to their capacity with a distinguished assemblage, including many ladies in brilliant attire.

On the floor of the senate the display of flowers was unusually beautiful, even for the opening day of a session of congress. The memorable scenes enacted in the chamber during the last session and the momentous events that have occurred since congress last adjourned created a feeling of intense expectancy on the part of both the spectators and the members of the senate.

The reading of the president's message was received with very careful attention for an hour, but after that the senators drifted to the cloakrooms, where they could peruse the message at their leisure in the printed copies which they had been furnished.

The reading of the message occupied two hours and eighteen minutes and not the slightest demonstration occurred.

At 3:45 o'clock p. m., after the introduction of a few unimportant bills and resolutions, the senate adjourned.

GAGE'S ESTIMATES

Of Appropriations Required For the Service For Next Two Years.

In conformity with the requirements of law, the secretary of the treasury transmitted to congress Monday the estimates of appropriations required for the service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, as furnished by the several executive departments. These estimates, including permanent annual appropriations, aggregate \$593,048,378, as against \$602,875,513, the amount of the appropriations, including deficiencies and miscellaneons, for the fiscal year, 1899, and \$462,647,885, the amount of estimates for 1899. \$20,279.68.

TO INVESTIGATE WAR

Congressman Sulzer, of New York, introduced a Resolution in the House. A Washington dispatch says: Representative Sulzer, of New York, ranking democratic member of the house committee on military affairs, introduced a resolution at the first day's session "authorizing and directing the committee on military affairs to investigate the war department and the conduct of the Spanish-American war."