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"FOR GOD, FOR COUNTRY AND FOR TRUTH.

C. V. W. AUSBON, BUSINESS MANAGER,

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## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives: The vest and increasing business of the government has been transacted by the several departments during the year with faithfulness, energy and success. The revenues amounting to above \$450,000,000, have been collected and disbursed without revealing, so far as I can ascertain; a single case of detalcation or embezziement. An earnest effort has been made to stimulate a sense of responsibil-ity and public duty in all officers and employes of every grade, and the work done by them has almost wholly escaped unfavorable criticism. I speak of these matters with freedom because the credit of this good work is not mine, but is shared by the heads of the several departments with the great body of faithful officers and employes who serve under them. The closest scrutiny of Congress is invited to all the methods of administration and to every item of expenditure.

FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH EUROPE. The friendly relations of our country with the nations of Europe and of the East have been undisturbed, while the ties of good will and common interest that bind us to the States of the Western Hemisphere have been notably strengthened by the conference held in this capital to consider measures for the an this capital to consider measures for the general welfare. Pursuant to the invitation authorized by Congress, the representatives of every independent State of the American continent and of Hayti met in conference in this capital in October, 1889, and continued in session until the 19th of last April. This important convocation marks a most interesting and influential epoch in the history of the Western Hemisphere. It is noteworthy that Brazil, invited while under an imperial form of government, shared as a republic in the deliberations and results of the confer-ence. The recommendations of this conference were all transmitted to Congress at the

THE KILLING OF BARRUNDIA. The killing of General Barrundia on board the Pacific mail steamer Acapulco, while anchored in transit in the port of San Jose de Guatemala, demanded careful inquiry. Having failed in a revolutionary attempt to invade Guatemala from Mexican territory, General Barrundia took passage at Acapulco for Panama. The consent of the representa-tives of the United States was sought to effect his seizure, first at Champerico, where the steamer touched, and afterward at San Jose. The captain of the steamer refused to give up his passenger without a written order from the United States Minister; the latter furnished the desired letter stipulating, as the con-dition of his action, that General Barrundia's life should be spared, and that he should be tried only for offenses growing out of his in-surrectionary movements. This letter was surrectionary movements. This letter was produced to the captain of the Acapuico by the military commander at San Jose, as his warrant to take the passenger from the steamer. General Barrundia resisted capture and was killed. It being evident that the Minister, Mr. Minner, had exceeded the bounds of his authority in intervening, in compliance with the demands of the Guatamalan author ties, to authorize and effect, in violation of precedent, the seizure on a vessel of the United States of a passenger in transit charged with political offenses, in order that he might be tried for such offenses under what was described as martial law, I was constrained to disavow Mr. Mizner's act and

recall him from his post. THE NEW EXTRADITION TREATY WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

ew treaty of extradition with Great Britain, after due ratification, laimed on the 25th of last March. Its beneficial working is already apparent.

The difference between the two govern-

ments touching the fur seal in the Behring Sea is not yet adjusted as will be seen by the correspondence which will soon be laid before Con-gress. The offer to submit the quesion to arbitration, as proposed by her Majesty's Government, has not been accepfor the reason that the form of submission proposed is not thought to be calculated to assure a conclusion satisfactory to either party. It is sincerely hoped that before the opening of another sealing season some aragement may be effected which will assure to the United States a property right, derived from Russia, which was not disregarded by any nation for more than eighty years pre-ceding the outbreak of the existing trouble.

INJUSTICE TO HAWAII. In the tariff act a wrong was done to the kingdom of Hawati which I am bound to

presume was wholly unintentional. Duties were levied on certain commodities which are included in the reciprocity treaty now existing between the United States and the kingdom of Hawaii, without indicating the necessary exception in favor of that king-dom. I hope Congress will repair what might otherwise seem to be a breach of faith on the part of this government.

UNCLE SAM'S POCKETBOOK. The revenues of the government from all sources for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1890, were \$463,963,060.55, and the total expenditures for the same period were \$358,618,-584.52. The postal receipts have not hereto-fore been included in the statement of these aggregates, and for the purpose of comparison the sum of \$60,882,097.92 should be deducted from both sides The surplus for the account. the year, including the amount applied to the sinking fund, was \$105,344,496.03. The receipts for 1890 were \$16,030,923.79 and the expenditures \$15,739,871 in excess of those of 1889. The customs receipts increased \$5,885,842.88 and the receipts from internal revenue \$11,-725,191.89, while, on the side of expenditures, that for pensions was \$19,312,075.96 in ex-

cess of the preceding year.

The Treasury statement for the current fiscal year, partly actual and partly esti-mated, is as follows: Receipts from all sources, \$406,000,000; total expenditures. \$554,000,000, leaving a surplus of \$52,000,000 -not taking the postal receipts into the ac-count on either side. The loss of revenue from customs for the last quarter is estimated at \$25,000,000, but from this is deducted a gain of about \$16,000,000, realized

during the first four mouths of the year.
For the year 1892 the total estimated reccipts are \$873,000,000 and the estimated ex nditures \$357,852,209.42, leaving an esti mated surplus of \$15,147,790.58, which, with cash balance of \$52,000,000 at the beginning of the year, will give \$67,147,790.58 as the sum available for the redemption of outstanding bonds or other uses. The estimates of re-ceipts and expenditures for the Postoffice Department, being equal, are not included in

s statement on either side. THE CIRCULATION OF THEASURY NOTES. The act "directing the purchase of silver bullion and the issue of Treasury notes there on," approved July 14, 1800, has been ad-ministered by the Secretary of the Treasury with an earnest purpose to get into circula-tion at the earliest possible date the full monthly amounts of Treasury notes contemplated by its provisions and at the same time to give to the market for silver bullion such support as the law contemplates. The re-cent depreciation in the price of silver has been observed with regret. The rapid rise in price which anticipated and followed the passage of the act was influenced in some degree by speculation, and the recent reacis in part the result of the same cause and in part of the recent monetary disturb-ences. Some months of further trial will be necessary to determine the permanent effect

of the recent legislation upon silver values, but it is gratifying to know that the increased circulation secured by the act has exerted and will continue to exert a most beneficial influence upon business and upon general

While it has not been thought best to renew formally the suggestion of an international conference looking to an agreement touching the full use of silver for coinage at a uniform ratio, care has been taken to observe the conference of the confer

a uniform ratio, care has been taken to observe closely any change in the situation
abroad, and no favorable opportunity will be
lost to promote a result which it is confidently believed would confer very large benefits
upon the commerce of the world.

The recent monetary disturbances in England are not unlikely to suggest a re-examination of opinions upon this subject. Our
very large supply of gold will, if not lost by
impulsive legislation in the supposed interest
of silver, give us a position of advantage in
promoting a permanent and safe international agreement for the free use of silver as tional agreement for the free use of silver as

The efforts of the Secretary to increase she volume of money in circulation by keeping down the Treasury surplus to the lowest practicable limit have been unremitting and in a very high degree successful. The tables presented by him, showing the increase of money in circulation during the last two decades, and especially the table showing the increase during the nineteen months he has administered the aff-tire of the department, are interesting and instructive. The increase of money in circulation during the ninet.en months has been in the aggregate \$33,866,813, or about \$1.50 per capita, and of this increase only \$7,000,000 was due to the recent silver legislation. That this substantial and needed aid given to commerce resulted in an enormous reduction of the public debt and of the annual interest charge is matter of increased satisfaction. There have been purchased and redeemed since March 4, 1889, 4 and 4½ per centbonds to the amount of \$311,832,450, at a cost of \$246,620,741, resulting in the reduction of the annual interest charge of \$3,957,609 and a total saving of interest of \$51,576,706.

I notice with great pleasure the statement of the Secretary that the receipts from inter-nal revenue have increased during the last fiscal year nearly \$12,300,000 and that the cost of collecting this larger revenue was less by \$90,617 than for the same purpose in the pre-ceding year. The percentage of cost of collecting the customs revenue was less for the last fiscal year than ever before.

THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

The report of the Secretary of War exhibits several gratifying results attained during the year by wise and unostentatious methods. The percentage of desertions from the army (an evil for waich both Congress and the department have long been seeking a remedy) has been reduced during the past year 24 per cent., and for the months of Au-gust and September, during which time the favorable effects of the act of June 26 were felt, 33 per cent., as compared with the same months of 1889.

I concur in the recommendations of the Secretary that adequate and regular appropriations be continued for coast defence works and ordnance. Plans have been practically agreed upon, and there can be no good reason for delaying the execution of them; while the defenceless state of our great seaports furnishes an urgent reason for wise expedition.

The encouragement that has been extended to the militia of the States, generally and most appropriately designated the "National Guard," should be continued and enlarged. These military organizations constitute, in a large sense, the army of the United States, while about five-sixths of the annual cost of their maintenance is defrayed by the States. PUNISHMENT OF VIOLATORS OF THE LAW.

The report of the Attorney-General is under the law submitted directly to Congress, but as the Department of Justice is one of Executive Departments some reference

to the work done is appropriate here. A vigorous and, in the main, an effective effort has been made to bring to trial and punishment all violators of the laws; but, at the same time care has been taken that frivolous and technical offenses should not be used to swell the fees of officers or to harass well-disposed citizens. Especial attention is called to the facts connected with the prose cution of violations of the election laws and of offenses against United States officers. The number of convictions secured, very many of them upon pleas of guilty, will, it is hoped, have a salutary restraining influence. There have been several cases where postmasters appointed by me have been subjected to violent interference in the discharge of their official duties and to persecutions and personal violence of most extreme character. of these cases have been dealt with through the Department of Justice, and in some cases the postoffices have been abolished or suspended. I have directed the Post-master-General to pursue this course in all cases where other efforts failed to secure for any postmaster, not himself in fault, an opportunity peacefully to exercise the duties of his office. But such action will not sup-plant the efforts of the Department of Justice to bring the particular offenders to punishment.

WORK OF THE POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT. The report of the Postmaster General shows the most gratifying progress in the important work committed to his direction. The business methods have been greatly improved. A large economy in expenditures and an in-crease of four and three-quarter millions in receipts have been realized. The deficiency this year is \$5,786,300, as against \$6,350,189 last year, notwithstanding the great en-largement of the service. Mail routes have been extended and quickened, and great securacy and dispatch in distribution and

delivery have been attained.

The passage of the act to amend certain sections of the Revised Statutes relating to lotteries, approved September 19, 1890, has been received with great and deserved popu-lar favor. The Postoffice Department and the Department of Justice at once entered upon the enforcement of the law with sympathetic vigor, and already the public mails have been largely freed from the traudulent and demoralizing appeals and literature emanating

from the lottery companies. OUR NEW NAVY. The construction and equipment of the new ships for the navy have made very sat-isfactory progress. Since March 4, 1889, nine new vessels have been put in com-mission, and during this winter four more, including one monitor, will be added. The construction of the other vessels authorized

is being pushed, both in the government and

private yards, with energy, and watched with the most scrupulous care.

The experiments conducted during the year to test the relative resisting power of armor plates has been so valuable as to attract great attention in Europe. The only part of the work upon the new ships that is threatened by unusual delay is the armor plating, and every effort is being made to reduce that to the minimum. It is a source of congratulation that the anticipated inof congratulation that the anticipated in-fluence of these modern vessals upon the esprit de corps of the officers and seamen has been fully realized. Confidence and pride in the ship among the crew are equivalent to a secondary buttery. Your favorable consid-eration is evited to the recommendations of the Secretary.

SETTLEMENT OF THE INDIAN TROUBLES. The several acts of Congress looking to the reduction of the larger Indian reserva-tions to the more rapid sottlement of the In-

dians upon individual allotments, and the restoration to the public domain of lands in excess of their needs, have been largely carried into effect, so far as the work was confided to the Executive. Agreements have been concluded since March 4, 1889, involving the cession to the United States of about 14,728,000 acres of land. These contracts have, as required by law, been submitted to Congress for ratification and for the appropriations necessary to carry them into effect. Those with the Sisseton, and about 14,728,000 acres of land. These contracts have, as required by law, been submitted to Congress for ratification and for the appropriations necessary to carry them into effect. Those with the Sisseton, and Wahpeton, Sac and Fox, Iowa, Pottawatomics and Abentee Shawness and Cour mics and Abentes Shawness and Cour d'Alene tribes have not yet received the sanction of Congress. Attention is also called to the fact that the appropriations made in the case of the Sioux Indians have not covered all the stipulated payments. This should be promptly corrected. If an agreement is confirmed, all of its terms should be complied with without delay, and full appropriations

LANDS TO SETTLESS.

The policy outlined in my last annual message in relation to the patenting of lands to settlers upon the public domain has been carried out in the administration of the Land Office. No general suspicion or imputation of fraud has been allowed to the contract of t to delay the hearing and adjudication of in dividual cases upon their merits. The purpose has been to perfect the title of honest settlers with such promptness that the value of the entry might not be swallowed up by the expense and extortions to which delay subjected the claimant. The average monthly issue of agriculture patents has been increased about six thousand.

The Disability Pension act, which was approved on the 27th of June last, has been put proved on the 20th of June last, has been put into operation as rapidly as was practicable. The increased clerical force provided was selected and assigned to work, and a considerable part of the force engaged in examinations in the field was recalled and added to the working force of the office. The examination and adjudication of the claims have, by reason of improved methods, been more rapid than ever before. There is no economy to the government in delay, while there is much hardship and injustice to the soldier. The anticipate 1 expenditure, while very large, will not, it is believed, be in excess of the estimates made before the enactment of the law. This liberal enlargement of the general law should suggest a more careful scrutiny of bills for spe-cial relief, both as to the cases where relief is granted and to the amount allowed.

THE CENSUS.

The enumeration of the people of the United States under the provisions of the act of March 1, 1889, has been completed, and the result will be at once officially com-municated to Congress. The completion of this decennial enumeration devolves upon Congress the duty of making a new apportionment of Representatives "among the several States according to their respective

AGRICULTURE.

The report of the Secretary of Agriculture deserves especial attention in view of the fact that the year has been marked in a very unusual degree by agitation and organiza-tion among the farmers looking to an in-crease in the profits of their business. It will be found that the efforts of the department have been intelligently and zealously devoted to the promotion of the interests intrusted to its care.

A very substantial improvement in the market prices of the leading farm products during the year is noticed. The price of wheat advanced from 81 cents in October, 1889, to \$1.00% in October, 1890; corn from 31 cents to 50% cents; oats from 19% cents to 43 cents. and barley from 63 cents to 78 cents. Meats showed a substantial but not so large an in-The export trade in live animals and fowls show a very large increase; the total value of such exports for the year ending June 30, 1890, was \$33,000,000, and the increase over the preceding year was over \$15,-000,000. Nearly 200,000 more cattle and over 45,000 more hogs were exported than in the preceding year. The export trade in beef and preceding year. The export trade in deer and pork products and in dairy products was very largely increased, the increase in the article of butter alone being from 15,504,978 pounds to 29,748,042 pounds, and the total increase in the value of meat dairy products exported being \$34,000,000. This trade, so directly helpful to the farmer, it is believed will be yet further and very largely increased when the system of inspection and sanitary supervision now pro-vided by law is brought fully in operation. The efforts of the Secretary to establish the healthfulness of our meats against the disparaging imputations that have been put them abroad have resulted in substantial progress. Veterinary surgeons sent out by the department are now allowed to participate in the inspection of the live cattle from this country landed at the English docks, and during the several months, they have been on duty no case of contagious pleuro-pneumonia has been reported. This inspaction abroad, and the domestic inspection of live animals and pork products, provided for by the act of August 30, 1890, will afford as perfect a guaranty for the wholesomeness of our meats offered for foreign consumption as is anywhere given to any food product, and its non-acceptance will quite clearly reveal the real motive of any continued restriction of their use; and, that baving been made clear, the duty of the Executive will be very

THE BEET SUGAR INDUSTRY. The information given by the Secretary of the progress and prospects of the beet sugar industry is full of interest. It has already passed the experimental stage and is a com-mercial success. The area over which the

sugar best can be successfully cultivated is large, and another field crop of great value is offered to the choice of the farmers. The Secretary of the Treasury concurs in the recommendation of the Secretary of Agriculture that the official supervision provided by the Tariff law for sugar of domestic producion shall be transferred to the Department of Agriculture.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

The law relating to the Civil Service has, so far as I can learn, been executed by those having the power of appointment in the classified service with fidelity and impartiality, and the service has been increasingly satis factory. The report of the commission shows a large amount of good work done during the year with very limited appropria-

WORK OF THE FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

I congratulate the Congress and the country upon the passage at the first session of the Fifty-first Congress of an unusual number of laws of very high importance. That the results of this legislation will be the quickening and enlargement of our manufacturing industries, larger and better mark-ets for our breadstuffs and provisions both at home and abroad, more constant employment and batter wages for our working people, and an increased supply of a safe cur-rency for the transaction of business, I do not doubt. Some of these measures were enacted at so late a period that the beneficial effects upon commerce which were in the con-templation of Congress have as yet but par-tially manifested themselves.

IMPROVED INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS. The general trade and industrial conditions throughout the country during the year have shown a marked improvement. For many years prior to 1880 the merchandise balances

per cent., while the increase outside the city of New York was over 13 per cent. During of New York was over 13 per cent. During the month of October the clearings of the whole country showed an increase of 3.1 per cent. over October, 1889, while outside of New York the increase was 11½ per cent. These figures show that the increase in the volume of business was very general throughout the country. That this larger business was being conducted upon a safe and profitable basis is shown by the fact that there were basis is shown by the fact that there were 300 less failures reported in October, 1893, than in the same month of the preceding year, with liabilities diminished by about \$50,000,000.

INCREASE IN EXPORTS.

The value of our experts of domestic mar-handise during the last year was over \$115. 000,000 greater than the preceding year, and was only exceeded once in our history. About \$100,000,000 of this excess was in agricultural products. The production of pig ironalways a good gauge of general prosperity— is shown by a recent census bulletin to have been 153 per cent. greater in 1890 than in 1889, and the production of steel 290 per cent. greater. Mining in coal has had no limitation except that resulting from deficient transportation. The general testimony is that labor is everywhere fully employed, and the reports for the last year show a smaller number of employes affected by strikes and lockouts than in any year since 1834. The depression in the prices of agricultural products had been greatly re-lieved, and a buoyant and hopeful tone was

beginning to be felt by all our people.

These promising influences have been in some degree checked by the surprising and very unfavorable monetary events which have recently taken place in England. It is gratifying to know that these did not grow in any degree out of the financial relations of London with our people, or out of any dis-credit attached to our securities held in that market. The return of our bon's and stocks was caused by a money string mey in England, not by any loss of value or credit in the securities themselves. We could not, however, wholly escape the ill effects of a foreign monetary agitation accompanied by such extraordinary incidents as characterized this. It is not believed, however, that these evil incidents which have for the time unfavorably affected values in this country, can long withstand the strong, safe and wholesome influences which are operating to give to our people profitable returns in all branches of legitimate trade and infustry. The appre-hension that our tariff may again and at once be subjected to important general changes would undoubtedly add a depressing influence of the most serious character.

THE NEW TARIFF. The General Tariff act has only partially gone into operation, some of its important provisions being limited to take effect at dates yet in the future. The general provisions of the law have been in force less than sixty days. Its permanent effects upon trade and prices still largely stand in conjecture. It is curious to note that the advance in the prices of articles wholly unaffected by the Tariff act was by many hastily ascribed to that act. Notice was not taken of the fact that the general tendency of the markets was upward from induences wholly apart from the recent tariff legisla-tion. The enlargement of our currency by the Silver bill undoubtedly gave an upward tendency to trade and had a marked effect on prices; but this natural and desired effect of the silver legislation was by many erro-

neously attributed to the Tariff act. There is neither wisdom nor justice in the suggestion that the subject of tariff revision shall be again opened before this law has had a fair trial. It is quite true that every tariff schedule is subject to objections. No bill was ever framed, I suppose, that in all of its rates and classifications had the full approval even of a party caucus.

Such legislation is always and necessarily the product of compromise as to details, and the present law is no exception. But in its general scope and effect I think it will justify the support of those who believe that American legislation should conserve and defend American trade and the wages of American

vorkmen. The misinformation as to the terms of the act which has been so widely disseminated at home and abroad will be corrected be experience, and the evil auguries as to its results confounded by the market reports, the sav-ings' banks, international trade balances and the general prosperity of our people. Already we begin to hear from abroad and from our custom houses that the prohibitory effect upon importations imputed to the act is not justified. The imports at the port of New York for the first three weeks of November were nearly 8 per cent, greater than for the same period in 1889 and 29 per cent, greater than in the same period of 1888. And so far from being an act to limit exports, I confidentiy believe that under it we shall secure a larger and more profitable participation in foreign trade than we have ever enjoyed, and that we shall recover a proportionate particl pation in the ocean carrying trade of the vorld.

The criticisms of the bill that have come to us from foreign sources may well be rejected for repugnancy. If these critics really be-lieve that the adoption by us of a free trade policy, or of tariff rates having reference solely to revenue, would diminish the partici-pation of their own countries in the commercs of the world, their advocacy and promotion by speech and other forms of organ-ized effort of this movement among our people is a rare exhibition of unselfishing trade. And, on the other hand, if they sin-cerely believe that the adoption of a protective tariff policy by this country insures to their profit and our hurt, it is noticeably strange that they should lead the outery against the authors of a policy so helpful to their countrypien, and crown with their favor those who would snatch from them a substantial share of a trade with other lands

already inadequate to their necessities.

There is no disposition among any of our people to promote prohibitory or retaliatory legislation. Our policies are adopted not to the hurt of others, but to secure for ourselves those advantages that fairly grow out-of our favored position as a nation. Our form of government, with its incident of universal suffrage, makes it imperative that we shall save our working people from the agitations and distresses which scant work and wages that have no margin for comfort always beget. But after all this is done it will be found that our markets are open to friendly commercial exchanges of enormous value to the other great powers.

From the time of my induction into office the duty of using every power and influence given by law to the Executive Department for the development of larger markets for products, especially our farm products, has been kept constantly in mind, and no effort has been or will be spared to promote that end We are under no disadvantages in any foreign market exceps that we pay our workness better wages than are paid elsewhere—bette abstractly, better relatively to the cost of the necessaries of life. I do not doubt that a very largely increased foreign trade is cossible to us wishout bartering for it

either our home market for such products of the farm and shop as our own people can supply or the wages of our working people. RECIPROCITY.

In many of the products of wood and iron, and in meats and breadstuffs, we have advantages that only need better facilities of intercourse and transportation to secure for them large foreign markets. The reciprocity clause of the Tariff act wisely and effectively opens the way to secure a large reciprocal trade in exchange for the free admission to our ports of certain products. The right of independent nations to make special reciprocal trade concessions is well established. and does not impair either the comity due to other powers or what is known as the "favored-nation clause," so generally found in commercial treaties. What is given to one for an adequate agreed consideration cannot be claimed by another freely. The state of the revenues was such that we could dispense with any important duties upon coffee, tea, hides and the lower grades of sugar and molasses. That the large advantage resulting to the countries producing and exporting these ar-ticles by placing them on the free list en-titled us to expect a fair return in the way of customs concessions upon articles exported by us to them was so obvious that to have gratuitously abandoned this opportunity to enlarge our trade would have been an un-

pardonable error.
There were but two methods of maintaining control of this question open to Congress, to place all of these articles upon the dutiable list subject to such treaty agreements as could be secured, or to place them all presently upon the free list, but subject to the reimposition of specified duties if the countries from which we received them should refuse to give to us suitable reciprocal benefits. This latter method, I think,

possesses great advantages.

The indications thus far given are very hopeful of early and favorable action by the countries from which we receive our large imports of coffee and sugar, and it is confdently believed that if steam communication with these countries can be promptly improve i and enlarged the next year will show most gratifying increase in our exports of breadstuffs and provisions, as well as of some important lines of manufactured goods.

AID FOR AMERICAN SHIPPING.

I desire to repeat with added urgency the commendations contained in my last annual message in relation to the develop-ment of American steamship lines. The reciprocity clause of the Tariff bill will be largely limited, and its benefits retarded and diminished, if provision is not contemporaneously made to encourage the establishment of first-class steam communication between our ports and tha ports of such nations as may meet our overtures for cularged commercial exchanges. The steamship, carrying the mails statedly and frequently, and offering to passengers a comfortable, safe, and speedy transit, is the first condition of foreign trade. It carries the order or the buyer, but not all that is ordered or bought. It gives to the sailing vessels such cargoes as are not urgent or perishable, and, indirectly at least, promotes that important adjunct of commerce. There is now both in this country and in the nations of Central and South America, a state of expectation and South America a state of expectation and confidence as to increased trade that will give a double value to your prompt action upon

this question.

The South Atlantic and Gulf ports occupy a very favored position toward the new and important commerce which the reciprocity clause of the tariff act and the postal ship-ping bill are designed to promote. Steamship of South America will almost certainly effect a connection between the railroad systems of the continents long before any continuous line of railroads can be put into operation. The very large appropriation made at the last session for the harbor of Galveston was justified, as it seemed to me, by these considera-tions. The great Northwest will feel the advantage of trunk lines to the South as well as to the East, and of the new markets opened for their surplus food products and for many of their manufactured products.

AN INTERNATIONAL BANK.

I had occasion in May last to transmit to Congress a report adopted by the Interna-tional American Conference upon the subject of the incorporation of an international American bank, with a view to facilitating money exchanges between the States represented in that conference. Such an institution would greatly promote trade we are seeking to develop. I and well-guarded charter be granted. I do not think the powers granted should include those ordinarily exercised by trust, guaranty and safe-deposit companies, or that more branches in the United States should be authorized than are strictly necessary to accomplish the object primarily in view, namely, convenient foreign exchanges. It is quite important that prompt action should be taken in this matter, in order that any appropriations for better communication with these countries, and any agreements that may be made for reciprocal trade, may not be hindered by the inconvenience of making exchanges through European money centers, or burdened by the tribute which is an incident of that method of business.

RELIEF FOR THE SUPREME COURT. The bill for the relief of the Supreme Court has, after many years of discussion, reached a position where final action is easily attain-able, and it is hoped that any differences of opinion may be so harmonieed as to save the essential features of this very important measure. In this connection I earnestly ra-new my recommendation that the salaries of judges of the United States district courts be o readjusted that none of them shall receive less than \$5000 per annum.

A NATIONAL BANKRUPT LAW.

The enactment of a national bankrupt law I still regard as very desirable. The Consti-tution having given to Congress jurisdiction of this subject, it should be exercised, and uniform rules provided for the administra tion of the affairs of insolvent debtors. The inconveniences resulting from the occasiona and temporary exercise of the power by Congress, and from the conflicting State codes of insolvency which come into force in-termediately, should be removed by the enactment of a simple, inexpensive and permanent national bankrupt law.

I also remew my recommendation in favor of legislation affording just copyright pro-tection to foreign authors, on a footing of reciprocal advantage for our authors abroad. SAFETY IN COUPLING CARS.

It may still be possible for this Congress to inaugurate, by suitable legislation, a movement looking to uniformity and in-creased safety in the use of couplers and creased safety in the use of couplers and brakes upon freight trains engaged in interstate commerce. The chief difficulty in the way is to secure agreement as to the best appliances, simplicity, effectiveness and cost being considered. This difficulty will only yield to legislation, which should be based upon full inquiry and impartial tests. The upon full inquiry and impartial tests. The purpose should be to secure the co-operation of all well-disposed managers and owners, but the fearful fact that every year's delay involves the sacrifice of 2000 lives and the maining of 20,000 young men should plead both with Congress and the managers against any needless delay.

THE POSTOFFICE AND THE TELEGRAPH. The use of the telegraph by the Postoffice Department as a means for the rapid trans-

mission of written communications is, I believe, upon proper terms quits desirable.
The Government does not own or operate the
railroais, and it should not, I think, own or
operate the telegraph lines. It does not,
however, seem to be quiet practicable for
the Government to contract with the telegraph companies, as it does with the railroad companies, to carry at specified rates
such communications as the senders may
designate for this method of transmission.
I recommend that such legislation be enacted
as will enable the Postoffice Department as will enable the Postoffice Department fairly to test by experiment the advantages of such a use of the telegraph.

THE ELECTION LAWS.

If any intelligent and loyal company of American citizens were required to catalogue the essential human conditions of national life I do not doubt that with account unani-mity they would begin with "free and honest elections." And it is gratifying to know that generally there is a groving and non-partisan demand for better election laws. But against this sign of hope and progress must be set the depressing and undeniable fact that election laws and mathods are sometimes cun ningly contrived to secure minority contro, while violence completes the shortcomings

In my last annual message I suggested that the development of the existing law provid-ing a Federal supervision of Congressional elections offered an effective method of reforming these abuses. The need of such a law has manifested itself in many parts of the country, and its wholesome restraints and penalties will be useful in all. The coubeen affirmed by the Suprams Court.

Its probable effectiveness is evidenced by the character of the opposition that is made to it. It has been denounced as if it were a new exercise of Federal power and an invasion of the rights of the States. Nothing could be further from the States. Nothing could be further from the truth. Congress has already fixed the time for the election of members of Congress. It has declared that votes for members of Congress must be by written or printed ballot; it has provided for the appointment by the circuit courts in certain cases, and upon the petition of a certain number of citizens, of election supervisors, and made it their outy to supervise the registration of voters conducted by the State officers; to challengs persons offering to register; to personally inspect and scrutinize the registry lists, and to affix their names to the lists for the purpose of identification and the prevention of founds to attend at elections and remain frauds; to attend at elections and remain with the boxes till the votes are all cast and counted; to attach to the registry lists and election returns any statement touching the accuracy and fairness of the registry and election, and to take and transmit to the Clerk of the Houss of Rep-resentatives any evidence of fraudulent practices which may be presented to them. The same law provides for the appointment of Deputy United States Marshals to attend the polls, support the Supervisors in the dis-charge of their duties, and to arrest persons violating the election laws. The provisions of this familiar title of the Revise! Statutes have been put into exercise by both the great political parties, and in the North as well as

have been put into exercise by both the great political parties, and in the North as well as in the South, by the filing with the court of the petitions required by the law.

It is not, therefore, a question whether we shall have a Federal election law, for we now have one, and have had for nearly twenty years, but whether we shall have an effective law. The present law store instead of the law store instead. law. The present law stops just short of effectiveness, for it surrenders to the local authorities all control over the certification which establishes the prima facie right to a seat in the House of Representatives. This defect should be cura1. of representation and the parity of the ele tors must be maintained or everything that is valuable in our system of governme lost. The qualification of an elector must be sought in the law, not in the opinions, prejudices or fears of any class, however powerful. The path of the elector to the ballot box must be free from the ambush of fear and the enticements of fraud; the count so true and open that none shall gain-say it. Such a law should be ab-solutely non-partisan and impartial. It should give the advantage to honesty and the control to majorities. Surely there is nothing sectional about this creed, and if it shall happen that the penalties of laws in-tended to enforce these rights fall here and not there, it is not because the law is sectional, but because, happily, crime is local and not universal. Nor should it be forgotten that every law whether relating to elections or to any other subject, whether enacted by the State or by the nation, has force behind it: the courts, the marshal or constable, the posse comitatus, the prison, are all and

always behind the law.
One cannot be justly charged with unfriendliness to any section or class who seeks only to restrain violations of law and of personal right. No community will find lawlessness profitable. No community can afford to have it known that the officers who are charged with the preservation of the public peace and the restraint of the criminal classes are themstraint of the criminal discussion or vio-selves the product of fraud or vio-lence. The magistrate is then without re-without sauction. The spect and the law without sauction. The floods of lawlessness cannot be leveed and made to run in one channel. The killing of a United States Marshal carrying a writ of arrest for an election offense is full of prompting and suggestion to men who are pursued by a city marshal for a crime agains

life or property.

But it is said that this legislation will revive race animosities, and some have even suggested that when the peaceful methods of fraud are made impossible they may be supplanted by intimidation and violence. If the proposed law gives to any qualified elector by a hair's weight, more than his equal induence, or detracts by so much equal induence, or detracts by so much from any other qualified elector, it is fatally impeached. But if the law is equal and the animosities it is to evoke grow out of the fact that some electors have been accustomed to exercise the franchise for others, as well as for themselves, these animosities ought not to confessed without shame and ca be given any weight in the discus-sion without dishoner. No choice is left to me but to inforce with vigor all laws into me but to inforce with vigor all laws in-tended to secure to the citizen his constitu-tional rights, and to recommend that the inadequacies of such laws be promptly remedied. If to promote with zeal and ready interest every project for the develop-ment of its material interests, its rivers, mines and factories, and the intelharbors, mines and factories, and the intelligence, peace and security under the law of its communities and its homes, is not accepted as sufficient evidence of friendliness to any State or section, I cannot add conniv-ance at election practices that not only dis-turb local results, but rob the electors of other States and sections of their most priceless political rights. BENJAMIN HARRISON.

Executive Mansion, Dec. 1, 1800.

Women clerks are invading even the heart of the city of London. In a large financial house in Gracechurch street a staff of female clerks has been engaged, and the managers are delighted with the success of the experiment.

There is some prospect that New York will have a State park in the Adiron-