Columbia : County.

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THE OREGON MIST. NEEDS OF THE NATION

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COLUMBIA COUNTY DIRECTORY.

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Masonic.—8t. Helens Lodge, No. 32—Regular communications first and third Saturday in each month at 7:30 r. M. at Masonic hall. Visit-ing members in good standing invited to at-tend. tend.
Masonic.—Rainier Lodge, No. 24—Stated meetings Saturiay on or before each full moon at 7:30 r. M. at Masonic hall, over Blanchard's store. Visiting members in good standing in-

One Fritzews-St. Helens Lodge No. 117-Meets every Faturday night at 7:30 Transient brothren in good standing cordially invited to

The Malle.

Down river (boat) closes at 8:30 a. M. Up river (boat) closes at 4 F. M. The mail for Vernoula and Fittaburg leaves Rolons Monday, Wodnesday and Friday at * A. M. The mail for Marshland, Clatskanie and Mist leaves Quinn Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Mails (railway) north close a 10 A. M.; for Portland at 5 F. M. Travelers! Unide-Hiver Routes. STRAMER G. W. SHAVER-Leaves St. Helens for Portland at 11 a. M. Tuesday, Thursday and Scatteriay, Leaves St. Helens for Clatakanie Memilay, Wednesday and Friday at 5:00 a. N.

STRAMER BRADIA - Leaves St. Helens for Port-land 7: A a. N. returning at 8:30 r. M. STRANGE JOSEPH KELLOHI Leaves St. Helens for Portland delly except Sunday, at 7 a. M., or riving at Portland at 10.30; returning, leave Portlany at 1 r. M., arriving at St. Helens at s.

PROFESSIONAL.

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CIVIL ENGINEER,

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The Overland Route.

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Grand Central Depot.

No. 2, "The Limited Fast Mail," leaving at 7:30 r. M., carries Vestibule Pullman Palace Steeping and Dining Cars and free Reclining Chair Cars through Irom Portland to Chief Cars and free Reclining Chair Cars through Irom Portland to Chief Cars and free Reclining Chair Cars through Irom Portland to Chief Cars and free Council Blinffs, without the sund Strain makes direct connections for Depter Walls Walls, Colins, Farmington, Rockford and Spokane, making direct connections for Dayton, Pomeries, Moscow and Court d'Alene.

No. 8, "Overland Flyer," luaving at 8.46 a. M., carrier Pullman Palace and Tourist Sleepers from Portland to Missouri river without change.

Through resins arrive at 7:25 a. M. and 9 P. S. OCEAN STEAMERS—MAY

LEAVE FORTLAND. LEAVE SAN FRANCISCO.

Through trains arrive at 7:25 a. N. and 9 F. S.

Through trains arrive at 7:25 a. N. and 9 F. S.

OCEAN STEAMERS—MAY

LEAVE FORTLAND.

LEAVE FORTLAND.

Columbia... May 8, 17, 29 Oregon... May 4, 16, 28

State... May 8, 17, 29 Oregon... May 4, 16, 28

State... May 8, 17, 29 Oregon... May 12, 24

The company to reves the right to change steamers or satisfing days.

PORTLAND AND ANTORIA ROUTE—Morning to the every form the state of the right to change at 1 A M; returning, leaves Astoria daily, except Sunday, at 5 P. M. Sight boat leaves Fortland daily, except Sunday, at 8 P. M.; returning leaves Astoria daily, except Sunday, at 6 A.

The morning boat from Portland makes and daily, except Sunday, at 6 A.

The morning boat from Portland makes and Saturdays; on the Washington side Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. From Astoria the morning boat makes landings on the Oregon side Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and on the Washington side Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

CASCADE ROUTE—Leave Ash atreet at 6 A. M.

CASCADE ROUTE—Leave Ash atreet at 6 A. M.

TO I AYTON AND WAY LANDINGS—Monday: Vednesday, Friday, 7 A. M.

Ocean steamers leave from Steamship wharf at 8 P. M.

All, OTHER Steamers leave from Ash-atreet vednesdays.

Nothing Definite Submitted on the Hawaiian Question-Upholds the New Tariff Bill.

President Grover Cleveland's first mes-sage to the 53d congress assembled in regular session was presented to the two houses and read in both. The full text

of the message is:
The constitutional duty which requires the president from time to time to give to congress information of the state of the Union and to recommend to their consideration such matters as he shall judge necessary is fittingly entered upon by commending to congress a careful recommendation of the detailed staterecommendation of the detailed statements and well-supported recommendations contained in the reports of the departments who are chiefly charged with the executive work of the government. In an effort to abridge this communication, as much as is consistent with its purpose, I shall supplement a brief reference with the contents of the departmental reports by the mention of such executive business and incidents as are not embraced therein and by such recommendations as appear to be at this particular time appropriate.

Our Foreign Relations.

While our foreign relations have not at all times during the past year been entirely free from preplexing, yet no embarrassing situations remain that will not yield to the spirit of fairness and love of justice, which, joined with consistent firmness, characterize a truly American policy.

American policy.

ARGENTINE-BRAZIL ROUNDARY DISPUTE.

My predecessor having accepted the office of arbitrator of the long standing boundary dispute tendered to the president by the Argentise Republic and Brazil, it has been my agreeable duty to receive the special envols commission of by these states to lay before me the evidence and arguments in behalf of their respective governments. respective gover-ments.
THE BRAZILIAN REVOLUTION.

THE BRAZILIAN REVOLUTION.

The outbreak of domestic hostilities in the republic of Brazil found the United States alert to watch the interests of our citizens in that country, with which we carry on important commerce. Several ve-sels of our new navy are now, and for some time have been, stationed at Rio de Janeiro. The strugals have between the catabilished paygle being between the established gov-ernment, which controls the machinery of administration, and with which we maintain friendly relations, and certain officers of the navy employing the ves-sels of their command in an attack upon the national capital and chief scaport. and lacking, as it does, the elements of divided administration. I have failed to SICIAN AND SURGEON.

St. Helens, Oregon.

E. HALL,

SICIAN AND SURGEON.

Clatskanie, Columbia county, Or.

LITTLE.

divided administration. I have failed to see that the insurgents can reasonably claim recognition as beligerents. Thus the position of our government has been that of an attentive, but impartial observer of the unfortunate conflict. Emphasizing our fixed policy of impartial neutrality in such a condition of affairs as now exists, I deemed it necessary to disavow, in a manner not to be misunderstood, the unauthorized action of the late naval commander in those waters in saluting the revolted Brazilian waters in saluting the revolted Brazilian admiral, being indisposed to counte-nance an act calculated to give gratui-tous sanction to the local insurrection.

THE CHILIAN CLAIMS, The convention between our govern-ment and Chili, having for its object the settlement and abjustment of the demands of the two countries against each other, has been made effective by the organization of the claims commission organization of the claims commission provided for. The two governments fail-ing to agree upon the third member of the commission, the good offices of the president of the Swiss republic were in-voked as provided in the treaty, and the selection of the Swiss representative in this country to complete the organiza-tion was gratifying to the United States and Chili.

The vexations question of so-called legation asylum for offenders against the state and its laws was presented anew in Chili by the unauthorized action of the late United States minister in receiving late United States minister in receiving in his official residence two persons who had failed in an attempt at revolution and against whom criminal charges were pending, growing out of a former abortive disturbance. The doctrine of asylum as applied to this case is sanctioned by the best precedent, and when allowed tends to encourage and line. tends to encourage sedition and strife Under no circumstances can the repre sentatives of this government be per mitted, under the ill-defined fiction of ex tra territorialty to interrupt the adminis-tration of criminal justice in the coun-tries to which they are accredited. A temperate demand having been made by the Chilian government for the correction of this conduct, in the instance mentioned, the mini-ter was instructed no longer to harbor the offender.

THE CHINESE QUESTION. mass of Chinese laborers, pending justicial inquiry as to its validity, in good faith declined to apply for the certificates required by its provisions. A test upon a proceeding by habeas corpus was brought before the supreme court, and May 15, 1893, a decision was made by that tribunal sustaining the law. It is believed that under the secent amorel-ment of the act, extending the time for the registration, the Chinese labourer thereto entitled who desire to reside it this country will now avail themselves of the renewed privilege thus afforded by establishing by has ful procedure their right to remain, and that thereby the necessity of enforced deportation may, to a great degree, be avoided.

country to meet the recurring cases of this kind will soon be accomplished. In my opinion treaties for reciprocal rela-tions should be concluded with all these

President Cleveland's Annual
Message to Congress.

Message to Congress.

DEVOTED MAINLY TO ROUTINE

DEVOTED MAINLY TO ROUTINE

Nothing Definite Submitted on the Sago.

ago.

RELATIONS WITH EUROPEAN POWERS.

Our relations with the French republic continue to be intimate and cordial. I sincerely hope that the extradition treaty with that country as amended by the senate will be consummated.

While occasional questions affecting our naturalized citizens returning to the land of their birth have arisen in our intercourse with Germany, our relations

our naturalized citizens returning to the land of their birth have arisen in our intercourse with Germany, our relations with that country continue satisfactory. The questions affecting our relations with Great Britain have been treated in a spirit of friendliness. Negotiations are in progress between the two governments with a view to such concurrent action as will make the award and regulations agreed upon by the Behring-sea tribunal of arbitration practically effective, and it is not doubted that Great Britain will co-operate freely with this country for the accomplishment of that purpose. The dispute growing out of the discrimination of toils imposed in the Welland canal, upon cargoes of cereals bound to and from the lake ports of the United States, was adjusted by the substitution of a more equitable schedule of charges, and my predecessor thereupon suspended his proclamation imposing discriminating toils upon British transit through our canal. A request for additions to the list of extraditable offenses, covered by the existing treaty between the two countries, is under consideration.

POINTS AT ISSUE WITH HAYTI.

POINTS AT ISSUE WITH HAYTI. POINTS AT ISSUE WITH HAVTI.

During the past year an American citizen employed in a subordinate commercial position in Hayti, after suffering protracted imprisonment on an unfounded charge of smuggling, was finally liberated upon a justice's examination Upon urgent representation to the Haytian government, a suitable indemnity was read to the sufferer.

was paid to the sufferer.

By a law o' Hayti a sailing vessel having discharged her cargo is refused clearance until the duties on such cargo have been paid. The hard-hip of this measure upon American ship-owners, who conduct the bulk of the carrying trade of that country, has been insisted on with a view of preventing a recurrence of this cause of comp'aint.

Our relations with Mexico continue to be of that close and friendly nature which should always characterize the inwhich should sloways characterize the intercourse of two neighboring is publics. The work of relocating the monuments, marking the boundary between the countries from Paso Del Norte to the Pacific, is now clearly completed. The commission recently organized under the conventions of 1884 and 1889, it is expected, will speed y settle disputes growing out of the shifting currents of the Rio Grande river cast of El Paso.

AMERICAN INTERRECTS IN MICARAGUA.

AMERICAN INTERESTS IN NICARAGUA. Nicaragus has recently passed through Nicaragna has recently passed through two revolutions, the party at first successful having in turn been displaced by another. Our newly appointed minister, by his timely good efforts, aided in a peaceful adjustment of the controversy involved in the first conflict. The large American interests established in that country in connection with the Nicaragna canal were not molested. The canal company has unfortunately become financially seriously embarrassed, but a generous treatment has rassed, but a generous treatment has been extended to it by the government of Nicaragua. The United States is especially interested in the successful achievement of the vast undertaking this company has in charge. That it should be accomplished under distinct should be accomplished under distinctively American auspices and its enjoyment assured not only to the vessels of this country, as a channel of commercial communication between our Atlantic and Pacific seaboards, but the ships of the world in the interests of civilization, is a proposition which, in my judgment, does not admit of question.

does not admit of question.

DICTATOR, BUT NO REVOLT.

Guatemala has also been visited by the political vicissitudes which have afflicted her Central American neighbors, but the dissolution of its legislature and the proclamation of dictatorship have been unattended by civil war. NEW EXTRADITION TREATIES.

An extradition treaty with Norway

has recently been exchanged and pro-

has recently been exchanged and proclaimed.

The extradition treaty with Russia, signed in March, 1887, and amended and confirmed by the senate in February last, was duly proclaimed last June.

APPAINS IN SAMOA.

Led by a desire to compose differences and contribute to the restoration of order in Samoa, which for some years previous had been the scene of conflicting foreign pretentions and native strife, the United States, ueparting from its policy consecrated by a century of observance, entered four years ago into the treaty of Berlin thereby becoming jointly bound with England and Germany to establish and maintain Malietoa Laupepa as king of Samoa. The treaty provided for a foreign court of justice and a municipal council for the district of Apia, with a foreign president thereof authorized to advise the king; a tribunal for the settlement of native and foreign land titles, and a revenue system for the blonder. It satelied more the The chinese question.

The legislation of last year, known as the Geary law, requiring the registration of all Chinese laborers entitled to residence in the United States and the deportation of all not comp ving with the provision of the act within the time prescribed, met with much opposition from Chinamen in this country. Acting upon the advice of eminent counsel that the law was unconstitutional, the great mass of Chinese laborers, pending judicial inquiry as to its validity, in good faith declined to apply for the certificates required by its provisions. A test upon a proceeding by habeas corpus was brought before the supreme court, and a large number of his native adherents were in open rebellion on one of the large number of his native adherents were in open rebellion on one of the islands. Quite lately, at the request of the other powers and in fulfillment of its treaty obligations, this government agreed to unite in a joint military government of such dimensions as would probably seems the surrender of the insurgers without bloodshed. The warship Pailadelphia was accordingly put under orders for Samoa, and before she arrived the threatened conflict was precipitated by Chief Matsafa as attack upon the insurgents' camp. Matsafa was detested and a number of men killed. The British and German v ssels present sub-CASCADE ROUTE—Leave Ash street at 8.4 M.

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COSTA RICA'S SURRENDER OF WEEKS.

COSTA RI

and cost of the three powers. This inci-dent and the events leading up to it sig-nally i instrate the impolicy of entang-ling al inness with foreign powers.

ling al liances with foreign powers.

CLAIMS AGAINST VENEZUELA.

In view of the impaired financial resources of Venezuela, consequent upon the recent revolution there, a modified arrangement for the satisfaction of the awards of the late advisory claims commission in progressive installments has been assented to, and payments are being regularly made thereunder.

The boundary dispute between Venezuela and British Guiana is yet unadjusted.

A restoration of diplomatic intercourse between that republic and Great Brit-ain and reference of the question to im-partial arbitration will be a most grati-

The Hawaiian Afiair.

It is scarcely necessary for me to state that the questions arising from our relations with Hawaii have caused serious embarrassment. Just prior to the installation of the present administration the existing government of Hawaii had been suddenly overthrown, and a treaty of annexation had been negotisted between the provisional government of the islands and the United States, and submitted to the senate for ratification. This treaty I withdrew for examination and dispatched Hon. James H. Blount, of Georgia, to Honolulu as a special commissioner to make an impartial investigation of the circumstances attending the change of government and of all conditions bearing upon the subject of the treaty. After a thorough and exhaustive examination, Mr. Blount submitted to me his report, showing beyond haustive examination, Mr. Blount submitted to me his report, showing beyond all question that the constitutional government of Hawaii had been subverted with the active aid of our representative to that government and through the intimidation caused by the presence of an armed naval force of the United States, which was landed for that purpose at the instance of our minister.

INSTRUCTIONS TO WILLIS.

Upon the facts developed it seemed to me that the only honorable course for our government to pursue was to undo the wrong that had been done by those representing us, and to restore, as far as practicable, the status existing at the time of our forcible intervention. With a view of accomplishing this result, within the constitutional limits of our executive power, and recognizing all our obligations and responsibilities growing out of any changes in the conditions brought about by our unjustifiable interference, our present minister at Honolulu has received appropriate instructions to that end. Thus far no information of the accomplishment of INSTRUCTIONS TO WILLIS. information of the accomplishment of any definite results has been received from him. Additional advices are so mexpected. When received, they will be promptly sent to congress, together with all other information at hand, accompanied by a special executive message detailing the acts necessary to a com-plete understanding of the case, and presenting a history of all the material vents leading up to the present situa-

PRACEFUL ARBITRATION. By a concurrent resolution passed by the senate February 14, 1800, and by the house of representatives the 3d of April following, the president was requested;

"To invite from time to time, as the fit occasion may arise, negotiations with any government with which the United States has or may have diplomatic rela-tions, to the end that any difference or dispute arising between the two governments, which cannot be adjusted by diplomatic agency, may be referred to rbitration and be peaceably adjusted

April 18, 1890, the International American conference of Washington by resolution expressed the wish that all resolution expressed the wish that all controversies between the republics of America and the nations of Europe might be settled by arbitration, and recommended that the government of each nation represented in that conference should communicate this wish to all friendly powers. A favorable response has been received from Great Egitain in the shape of a resolution all friendly powers. A favorable response has been received from Great Britain in the shape of a resolution adopted by parliament July 13 last, cordially sympathizing with the purpose in view and expressing the hope that her majesty's government will lend ready co-operation to the government of the United States upon the basis of the concurrent resolution above quoted. It affords me signal pleasure to lay this preliminary resolution before congress and to express my gratification that the sentiment of two great and kindred nations is thus authoritatively manifested in favor of the rational and peaceful settlement of international quarrels by honorable resort to arbitration.

OUR REPRESENTATIVES ARROAD.
Since the passage of the act of March
3, 1893, authorizing the president to
raise the grade of our envoys to correspond with the rank with which foreign
countries according their countries accredit their agents here, Great Britain, France, Italy and Germany have conferred upon their representatives at this capital the title of embassador, and I have responded by accrediting the agents of the United States in those countries with the same title. A like elevation of mission is announced by Russia and when made will be simi-larly met. This step fitting y comports with the position the United States holds in the family of nations.

THE CONSULAR SERVICE.

During my former administration I took occasion to recommend a recast of the laws relating to consular service in order that it might become a more efficient agency in the promotion of the in-terests it was intended to subserve. The duties and powers of consuls have been expanded with the growing require-ments of our foreign trade. Discharging important duties affecting our com-merce and American citizens abroaand in certain countries exercising judicial functions, these officers should be men of character, intelligence and

EXTENSION OF THE COPYRIGHT. Upon proof that the legislation of Denmark secures copyright to American citizens on equal footing with its own, the privileges of our copyright laws have the privileges of our copyright laws have be a extended by proclamation to the subjects of that country.

Our Fin mees. The secretary of the treasury report that the receipts of the government from all sources during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1893, amounted to \$461,710. June 30, 1893, amounted to 4401.710, 5611 04, and its expenditures to 459.374. 674 2). There was collected from customs \$206.355 016 75, and from internal 1 venues \$161.027.623 93. Our dividable imports amounted to 4421 256.511, an increase of \$52,453,907 over the preceding years, and the importations free of

We exported merchandise during the year amounting to \$847,565,194, a decrease of \$182,613,249 54 from the preceding year. The amount of gold exported

ing year. The amount of gold exported was larger than any previous year in the history of the government, amounting to \$108,680,844, and exceeding the amount exported during the preceding year by \$58,485,517. The sum paid from the treasury for sugar bounty was \$9,375,130 81, an increase over the preceding year of \$2,033,053 09.

lying consummation.

The ratification by Venezuela of the convention for the arbitration of the long-deferred claim of the Venezuela Transportation Company is awaited. The Hawaiian Aftair.

year of \$2,033,053 09.

NEXT YEAR'S ESTIMATES.

It is estimated upon the basis of the present revenue laws that the receipts of the government for the year ending June 30, 1894, will be \$430,121.365 38, and its expenditures \$458,121.365 38, resulting in a deficiency of \$28,000,000. On the first day of November, 1893, the amount of money of all kinds in circulation or not included in the treasury holdings was \$1,718,544,682, an increase for the year of \$112.404.945. Estimating our population at 67,426,000 at the time our population at 67,426,000 at the time mentioned, the per capita circulation was \$25 49. On the same date there was in the treasury gold bullion amount-ing to \$96,657,273, and silver bullion which was purchased at a cost of \$126,-261,553.

THE SILVER PURCHASES.

The purchases of silver under the law of July 14, 1890, during the last fiscal year aggregated 54,008,162.50 fine ounces, which cost \$45,531,374 53. The total amount of silver purchased from the time that law became operative until the repeal of its purchasing clause, November 1, 1893, was 168,674,590.46 fine ounces, which cost \$155,930,940 84. Between March 1, 1873, and November 1, 1893, the government purchased under all laws 503,003,717 fine ounces of silver, at a cost of \$516.622,946. The silver dollars that have been coined under the act of July 14, 1890, number 36.087,-285. The seizniorage arrising from such coinage was \$6,977,695 39, leaving on hand in the mints 140,699.760 fine ounces of silver, which cost \$126,578,218. Our total coinage of all metals during the last fiscal year consisted of:

During the calender year 1892 the production of precious metals in the United States was estimated to be:

Fine ounces gold.
Commercial and coinage value.
Fine ounces silver.
Builton or market value.
Colunge value.

The recent repeal of the provision of the law requiring the purchase of silver builtion by the government, as a feature bullion by the government, as a feature of our monetary scheme, makes a change in the complexion of our currency affairs. I do not doubt that the ultimate result of this act will be most salutary and far-reaching. In the nature of things, however, it is impossible to know at this time what conditions will be brought about by the change, or what, if any, supplementary legislation may, in the light of such conditions, appear to be essential or expedient. Of course, after the recent financial perturbation, time is necessary for the re-establishment of business confidence. When, however, through this restored confidence, the money which has been frightened into hiding places is returned to trade and enterprise, a survey of the frightened into hiding places is returned to trade and enterprise, a survey of the situation will probably disclose a safe path leading to a permanently sound currency abundantly sufficient to meet every requirement of our increasing population and business. In the pursuit of this object we should resolutely turn away from alluring and temporary expedients, determined to be content with nothing less than a lasting and comprehensive financial plan. In these circumstances I am confident that a reasonable delay in dealing with this subject, in-

stances I am confident that a reasonable delay in dealing with this subject, instead of being injurious, will increase the probability of wise action.

THE BRUSSELS CONFURENCE.

The monetary conference, which assembled at Brussels upon our invitation, was adjourned to November 30, in tion, was adjourned to November 30, in the present year. The considerations just stated, and the fact that a definite proposit on from the United States seemed to be expected on the reassembling of the conference, led me to express a willingness to have the meeting still further postponed. It seems to me that it would be wise to give general authority to the president to invite other nations to such a conference at any time when there should be a fair prospect of accomplishing an international agreement on the subject of coinage.

I desire also to earnestly suggest the wisdom of amending the existing statutes in regard to the issuance of government bonds. The authority now rested in the secretary of the treasury to issue bonds is not as clear as it should be, and the bonds authorized are disadvandard to the contract of the secretary of the second to tageous, both as to their maturity and

The War Department.

The War Department.

The secretary of war reports that the strength of the army on the 30th day of September last was 25,778 enlisted men and 2144 officers. The total expenses of this department for the year ended June 30, 1893, amounted to 151,000,074 89. Of this sum, \$1,992,531 95 was for salaries and contingent expenses, \$423,377,828 35 for the support of the military establishment, \$46,07,033, 28 for miscellaneous ment, 46 0.7.033 28 for miscellaneous objects, \$420,158,631 41 for public works. This latter sum includes \$15 296,876 46 for river and harbor improvement., and \$3,206,141 30 for fertifications and other

duty amounted to \$444,544,211, a decrease from the preceding year of \$15,-465,447. Our internal revenue receipts on the 31st of October of the present year 112,597 officers and enlisted men. \$7,147,445 33. The total tax collected inspection and instruction of this reserve of our military force report that increased interest and progress are appurent in the discipline and efficiency of the organization. Neither Indian outbreaks nor domestic violence has called the army into service during the year, and the only service during the year, the army into service during the year, and the only active military duty required of it has been in the department of Texas, where violations of the neutrality laws of the United States and Mexico were promptly and efficiently dealt with by the troops, eliciting the warm approval of the civil and military authorities of both countries.

authorities of both countries.

A YEAR OF PEACE.

The operation of wise laws and the influences of civilization constantly tending to relieve the country from the dangers of Indian hostilities, together with the increasing ability of the states, through the efficiency of the National Guard organizations, to protect their citizens from domestic violence, lead to the suggestion that the time is fast approaching when there should be a reorganization of our army on the lines of the present necessities of the country. This change contemplates neither an increase in number nor added expense, but a redistribution of the force and an encouragement of measures tending to greater efficiency among the men and the improvement of the service. The adoption of battalion formations for infantry regiments, the strengthening of adoption of battalion formations for in-fantry regiments, the strengthening of the artillery force, the abandonment of certain unimportant positions and the massing of the troops at important and accessible stations, all promise to pro-mote the usefulness of the army. In the judgment of army officers, with but few exceptions, the operation of the law for bidding the re-enlistment of men after 10 years' service has not proven its wis-dom, and, while the arguments that led to its adoption were not without merit, the experience of the year constrains me to join in the recommendation for its repeal.

to join in the recommendation for its repeal.

OUR COAST DEFENSES.

It is gratifying to note that we have begun to attain completed results in the comprehensive scheme of sea-coast de fense and fortifications entered upon eight years ago. A large sum has been already expended, but the cost of maintaining will be inconsiderable as compared with the expense of construction and ordnance. At the end of the current calendar year the war department will have nine 12 inch guns, 20 10 inch and 34 8-inch guns ready to be mounted on gun-lifts and carriages, and 75 12 inch mortars. In addition to the product of the army gun factory now completed at Watervliet, the government has contracted with private parties for the purchase of 100 guns of these calibers, the first of which should be delivered to the department for test before July 1, 1894. The manufacture of heavy ordnance keeps pace with current needs, but to render these guns available for the purposes they are designed to meet, emplacements must be prepared for them. Progress has been made in this direction, and it is desirable that congress, by adequate appropriations, should provide for the uninterrupted

NATIONAL MILITARY PARKS.

NATIONAL MILITARY PARKS.

The work on the projected Chickamauga and Chattanooga military park has been prosecuted with zeal and judgment, and its opening will be celebrated during the coming year. Over nine square miles of the Chickamauga battlefield have been acquired, 25 miles of road have been acquired, 25 miles of road have been constructed, and permanent tablets have been placed at many historical points, while the invitation to the states to mark the position of their troops participating in the battle has been very generally accepted.

The work of locating and preserving the lines of battles at Gettysburg battlefield is making satisfactory progress in the plans directed by the last congress.

MILITARY ACADEMIES.

MILITARY ACADEMIES. The reports of the military academy at West Point and the several schools for special instructions of officers show marked advance in the education of the army and commendable ambition among its officers to excel in the military profession and to 6th the mealing of the seven and the first the military profession and to 6th the mealing of the seven and the seven and the seven are the seven are the seven and the seven are the seven are the seven and the seven are the seven and the seven are the seven are the seven are the seven are the seven and the seven are the seven ar among its officers to excel in the mili-tary-profession and to fit themselves for the highest service to the country. Under the supervision of Adjutant-Gen-eral Robert Williams, lately retired, the bureau of military information has be-come well established and is performing a service that will put in possession of the government in time of war most valuable information, and at all times serve a purpose of great utility in keeping the army advised of the world's progress in all matters pertaining to the art of war.

The report of the postmaster-general contains a detailed statement of the op-erations of the postoffice department during the last fiscal year and much interesting information touching this im-portant branch of the public service. The business of the mails indicates with bsolute certainty the condition of the business of the country, and a depres-sion in financial affairs inevitably and sion in financial affairs inevitably and quickly reduces the postal revenues. Therefore, a larger discrepancy than usual between the postoffice receipts and expenditures is the expected and unavoidable result of the distressing stringency which has prevailed throughout the country during much of the time covered by the postmister-general's record.

At a date when better times were anticipated, it was estimated by his pre-decessor that the deficiency on the 35th day of June, 1893, would be a little over \$1,500.000. It amounted, however, to more than \$5.000.000; at the same time more than \$5.000,000; at the same time and under the influence of like anticipations, estimates were made for the current fiscal year ending June 30.1 '94, which exhibited a surplus of revenue over expenditures of \$872.245 71. But now, in view of the actual receipts and expenditures during that part of the current fiscal year already expired, the report of the postmaster-general e-timates that at its close, instead of a surplue, there will be a deficiency of nearly \$3,000,000.

DISCOVERY OF FRAUD.

The execution of this law in its early

stages does not seem to have been in secord with its true intention, but toward
the close of the last administration an
authoritative construction was given to
the statute, and since that time this
construction has been followed. This
has had the effect of limiting the operation of the law to its intended purpose.
The discovery having been made that
many names had been put upon the
pension toll by means of wholesale and
gigantic trands, the commissioner suspended payments upon a number of
pensions which seem to be fraudulent or
unanthorized pending a complete examipensions which seem to be fraudulent or unanthorized pending a complete examination, giving notice to the pensioners in order that they might have an opportunity to establish, if possible, the justice of their claims, notwithstanding apparent invalidity. This, I understand, is the practice which has for a long time prevailed in the pension bureau, but after entering upon these recent investigations the commissioner modified this rule so as not to allow, until after complete examination, interference with the payment of a pension apparently not altogether void, but which merely had been fixed at a rate higher than that authorized by law.

After a hard struggle, tariff reform is directly before us. Nothing so important claims our attention and nothing so clearly presents itself as both an opportunity and a duty—an opportunity to deserve the gratitude of our fellow citizens; a duty imposed upon us by our oft-repeated professions and by the emphatic mandate of the people. After full discussion, our countrymen have spoken in favor of this reform, and they have confided the work of its accomplishment to the hands of those who are solemnly pledged to it. If there is anything in the theory of a representation in public places of the people and their desires, if political officers are really the servants of the people, and if political promises and professions have any binding force, our failure to give the relief so long awaited will be sheer recreancy. Nothing should intervene to distract our attent in or disturb our effort until this reform is accomplished by wise and careful legislation. While we should stanchly adhere to the principle that only the necessity of revenue justifies the imp sition of tariff duties and other federal taxation, and that they should be limited by strict economy, we cannot close our eyes to the fact that conditions have grown up among us which in justice and fairness call for discriminating care in the distribution of such duties and taxation as the emergency of our government actually demands. gency of our government actually

THE INTERESTS OF LABOR.

The intresets of labor are certainly though indirectly involved in this feature of our tariff system. The sharp competition and active struggle among our manufacturers to supply the united demand for their goods soon fills the narrow market to which they are confined. Then follows a suspension of the working of mills and factories, a discharge of employes and distress in the homes of our workingmen. Even if the often disproved assertion could be made good that a lower rate of wages would result from free raw material and low tariff duties, the intelligence of our workingmen leads them quickly to discover that their steady employment, if permitted by free materials, is the most important factor in their relation to tariff legislation.

THE WILSON BILL COMMENDED.

legislation.

THE WILSON BILL COMMENDED.

A measure has been prepared by the appropriate congress committee embodying tariff reform on the lines herein suggested which will be promptly submitted for legislative action. It is the result of much patriotic and unselfish work, and I believe it deals with its subject as consistently and thoroughly as the existing conditions permit. I am satisfied that the reduced tariff duties provided for in the proposed legislation, added to existing internal revenue taxation, within the near future, though perhaps not immediately, will produce sufficient revenue to meet the needs of the government. the government.

the government.

THE INCOME TAX.

The committee, after full consideration and to provide against a temporary deficiency which may exist before the business of the country adjusts itself to the new schedules, have wisely embraced in their plan a few additional internal revenue taxes, including a small tax upon incomes derived from certain corporations. These new assessments are not only absolutely just and easily borne, but they have the further merit of being such as can be remitted without unfavorable business disturbances whenever the necessity of their imposition no longer exists.

tion no longer exists.

In my great desire for the success of In my great desire for the success of this measure. I cannot restrain the suggestion that its success can only be attained by means of unselfish counsel on the part of the friends of tariff reform and as a result of their willingness to subordinate personal desires and ambitions to the general good. The local interests affected by the proposed reform are so numerous and so varied that, if all insist upon legislation embodying them, the reform must inevitably fall.

In conclusion my intense feeling of responsibility impels me to invoke for the manifold interests of a generous and contiding people the not acrupatous care, and to pledge my willing support to every leg slative effort for the advancement of the greatness and prosperity of our beloved country.