

In the arid states the only right to water which should be recognized is that of use. In irrigation this right should attach to the land reclaimed and be inseparable therefrom.

**Nation's Aid Justified.** The benefits which have followed the unaided development of the past justify the Nation's aid and co-operation in the more difficult and important work yet to be accomplished.

**INSULAR MATTERS.**

**What Must Be Done to Develop Hawaii.** In Hawaii our aim must be to develop the territory on the traditional American lines.

**Porto Rico.** It is a pleasure to say that it is hardly more necessary to report as to Porto Rico than as to the other islands within our continental limits.

**Cuba.** In Cuba such progress has been made toward putting the independent government of the island upon a firm footing that before the present session of the Congress closes this will be an accomplished fact.

**The Philippines.** In the Philippines our problem is larger. They are very rich tropical islands, inhabited by many varying tribes.

**Local Self-Government.** In our anxiety for the welfare and progress of the Philippines, it may be that there we have gone too rapidly in giving them local self-government.

**Troubles Still Ahead.** There are still troubles ahead in the islands. The insurrection has become an affair of local bandits and marauders, who deserve no higher regard than the brigands of portions of the Old World.

**Respect for Our Rights.** Probably no other great nation in the world is so anxious for peace as we are. There is not a single civilized power which has anything whatever to fear from aggressiveness on our part.

conscious for their courage and devotion to the flag. I recommend that the Secretary of War be empowered to take some systematic action in the way of aiding those of these men who are crippled in the service and the families of those who are killed.

**Additional Legislation Needed.** The time has come when there should be additional legislation for the Philippines. Nothing better can be done for the islands than to introduce industrial enterprises.

**Pacific Cable.** I call your attention most earnestly to the crying need of a cable to Hawaii and the Philippines, to be continued from the Philippines to points in Asia.

**NICARAGUA CANAL.**

**Work of the Greatest Importance to the American People.** No single great material work which remains to be undertaken in this continent is of such consequence to the American people as the building of a canal across the isthmus connecting North and South America.

**Practice and Drill.** Every detail ashore which can be performed by a civilian should be so performed, the officer being kept for his special duty in the sea service.

**Reorganizing the Army.** Much good has already come from the act reorganizing the Army, passed early in the present year.

**THE NAVAL MILITIA.**

The naval militia forces are state organizations, and are trained for coast service, and, in event of war, they will constitute the inner line of defense.

**NAVY DEPARTMENT.**

**Work of Upbuilding It Must Be Steadily Continued.** The work of upbuilding the Navy must be steadily continued. No one point of our policy, foreign or domestic, is more important than this to the honor and material welfare of the Nation.

**WAR DEPARTMENT.**

**Army is Large Enough at the Present Time.** It is not necessary to increase our Army beyond its present size at this time. But it is necessary to keep it at the highest point of efficiency.

**CIVIL SERVICE.**

The merit system of making appointments in its essence is democratic and American as the common school system itself. It simply means that in clerical and other positions where the duties are entirely non-political, all applicants should have a fair field, no favor, each standing on his merits as he is able to show them by practical test.

**Our Modern Navy.** Our present Navy has begun in 1882. At that period our Navy consisted of a collection of antiquated wooden ships, already almost as out of place against modern war vessels as the galleys of Alcibiades and Hamlet—certainly as the ships of the French and British fleets.

**Should Be No Cessation.**

There should be no cessation in the work of completing our Navy. So far ingenuously has been wholly unable to devise a substitute for the great war craft whose hammering guns beat out the reply to the Secretary's, it is unsafe and unwise not to provide this year for several additional battle-ships and heavy armored cruisers, with auxiliary and lighter craft in proportion.

**Practice and Drill.**

Every detail ashore which can be performed by a civilian should be so performed, the officer being kept for his special duty in the sea service. Above all, gunnery practice should be unceasing. It is important to have our Navy of adequate material, and it is important that the ship for ship it should be in efficiency any navy in the world.

**Reorganizing the Army.** Much good has already come from the act reorganizing the Army, passed early in the present year. The three reforms, all of them of literally incalculable value, are, first, the substitution of four-year details from the line for permanent appointments in the so-called staff divisions; second, the establishment of a corps of artillery with a chief at the head; third, the establishment of a maximum and minimum limit for the Army.

**The Naval Militia.** The naval militia forces are state organizations, and are trained for coast service, and, in event of war, they will constitute the inner line of defense. They should receive the same management from the General Government.

**Volunteer Forces.** Action should be taken in reference to the militia and to the raising of volunteer forces. Our militia law is obsolete and worthless. The organization and armament of the National Guard of the several states, which are treated as militia in the appropriations by the Congress, should be made identical with those provided for the regular forces.

**Other Matters.** Debt Due to the Veterans Who Saved the Union. No other citizens deserve so well of the Republic as the veterans, the survivors of those who saved the Union.

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**PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION.**

The Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo has just closed. Both from the industrial and the artistic standpoint this exposition has been in a high degree creditable and by no means unimportant throughout the most of the present session of Congress.

have come to fill the positions by the mere fact of seniority. The system should be adopted by which there shall be an elimination, grade by grade, of those who seem unfit to render the best service in the next grade.

**Field Exercises.** Our Army is so small and so much scattered that it is very difficult to give the higher officers (as well as the lower officers and the enlisted men) a chance to practice maneuvers in mass and on a comparatively large scale.

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**DEATH OF VICTORIA AND FREDERICK.**

The death of Queen Victoria caused the people of the United States deep and heartfelt sorrow. A which the Government gave full expression. When President McKinley died, our Nation in turn received from every quarter of the British Empire expressions of grief and sympathy no less sincere.

**PAN-AMERICAN CONGRESS.**

We view with lively interest and keen hope the beneficial results the proceedings of the Pan-American Congress, convened at the invitation of Mexico, and now sitting at the Mexican capital. The delegates of the United States are under the most liberal instructions to co-operate with their colleagues in all matters promoting the welfare of the great family of American commonwealths.

**THEODORE ROOSEVELT.**

White House, December 3, 1901.

I recommend the passage of a law which will extend the classified service to the District of Columbia, or will at least enable the President to extend it. In my judgment all laws providing for the temporary employment of clerks should hereafter contain provision that they be selected under the civil service law.

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In these efforts they naturally look for assistance from the Federal Government, though still the Library of Congress, and so entitled, is the one National library of the United States. Already the largest single collection of books on the Western Hemisphere, and certain to increase more rapidly than any other through purchases, exchange and the operation of the copyright law, this library has a unique opportunity to render to the libraries of this country—to American scholarship—service of the highest importance.

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