THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE.

WASHINGTON, December 4th. Following is President Grant's annual message, delivered to Congress to-day:

To the Senate and House of Representatives: In addressing my third annual message to the law-making branch of the government, it is gratifying to be able to state that during the past year success has generally attended the effort to execute all laws found upon the statute books. The policy has been not to inquire into the wisdom of laws already enacted, but to learn their special intent, and to enforce them accordingly. The past year has, under a wise providence, been one of general prosperity to the nation. It has, however, been attended with more than the usual chastisements in loss of life and property by storm and These disasters have served to call forth the best elements of human nature in our country, and to develop a friendship for us on the part of foreign nations which goes far toward alleviating the distress occasioned by the calamities. The benevolent who have so generously shared their means with the victims of these misfortunes will reap their reward in the consciousness of having performed a noble act, and in receiving the grateful thanks of men, women and children whose sutferings they have relieved.

THE ALABAMA TREATY. The relations of the United States with foreign Powers continue to be friendly. The year has been an eventful one in witnessing two great nations, speaking one language and having one lineage, settling by peaceful arbitration disputes of long standing and liable at any time to bring these nations into hostile conflict. An example has thus been set which, if successful in its final issue, may be followed by other civilized nations and become the final means of returning to productive industry millions of men maintained to settle the disputes of nations by the bayonet and broadsword. I transmit herewith a copy of the treaty alluded to (which has been concluded since the adjournment of Congress) with Her Britanic Majesty, and a copy of protocols of the confer-ences of the Commissioners by whom it was negotiated. This treaty provides methods for adjusting the questions pending between the two nations. Various questions are to be adjusted by arbitration. I recommend Congress at an early day to make the necessary provision for the tribunal at Geneva, and for the several Commissions on the part of the United States called for by the treaty. His Majesty the King of Italy, the President of the Swiss Confederation, and His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, have each consented, on the joint request of the two Powers, to name an abitrator for the tribunal at Geneva. I have caused thanks to be suitably expressed for the readiness with which the joint request has been complied with, by the ap-

pointment of gentlemen of eminence

and learning to the important posi-

His Majesty the Emperor of Germany was pleased to comply with the joint wish of the two Governments, and has consented to act as the arbitrator of the disputed water boundary between the United States and Great Britain. The contracting parties in the treaty have undertaken to regard as between themselves certain principles of public law for which this Government has contended from the commencement of their history. They have also agreed to bring these prin-ciples to the knowledge of the other maritime powers and ask them to accede to them. Negotiations are going on as to the form of the note by which the invitation is to be extended to the Powers. I recommend the legislation necessary on the part of the United States to bring into operation the article of the treaty relating to the fisheries, and to the other matters touching the relations of the United States towards the British North American possessions, to become operative as soon as the proper legislation shall be had on the part of Great Britain and its possessions. It is much to be desired that this legislation may become operative before the fishermen of the United States begin to make their arrangements for the coming season. I have addressed a communication, of which a copy is transmitted herewith, to the Governors of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin urging upon the Governments of those States respectively the necessary action on their part to carry into effect the objects of the article of the treaty which contemplates the use of the canals on either side, connected with the navigation of the lakes and rivers forming the boundary, in terms of equity, by the inhabitants of both countries. It is hoped that the importance of the object and tne benefits to follow therefrom will secure the speedy approval and legis-lative sanction of the States concern-

NORTHERN BOUNDARY.

I renew my recommendation for an appropriation for determining the true position of the forty-ninth parallel of latitude, where it forms the boundary between the United States and the British North American provinces, between the Lake of the Woods and the summit of the Rocky Mountains, to the early action of Congress. I would also recommend that Congress put it in the power of the War Department to place a force in the field during the next Summer.

PROTECTION OF GERMANS IN FRANCE. The resumption of diplomatic relations between France and Germany has enabled me to give directions for the withdrawal of the protection extended to Germans in France by the diplomatic and consular representatives of the United States in that country. It is just to add that the delicate duty of this protection has been performed by the Minister and the Consulate in Paris and the various Consuls in France, under the supervision of the latter, with great kindness, as well as with prudence and tact. Their course

German Government, and has wounded no susceptibility of the French. THE UNITED STATES AND GERMANY ON

ASIATIC MATTERS. The Government of the Emperor of Germany continues to manifest a friend-ly feeling towards the United States, and a desire to harmonize with the

moderate and just policy which this Government maintains in its relations with Asiatic Powers, as well as with the South American Republics. I have given assurance that the friendly feelings of that Government are fully shared by the United States.

RELATIONS WITH AUSTRIA. The ratification of the consular and naturalization conventions with the Austry-Hungarian Empire have been exchanged.

RELATIONS WITH ITALY. I have been officially informed of the annexation of the States of the Church to the Kingdom of Italy, and the removal of the capital of that kingdom to Rome. In conformity with the established policy of the United States I have recognized this change. The ratifications of the new treaty of commerce between the United States and Italy have been exchanged. The two Powers have agreed in their treaty that property at sea shall be exempt from seizure in case of war between two Powers. The United States have spared no opportunity of incorporating this

rule into their policy. THE CATACAZY AFFAIR.

It was impossible with self-respect. or with a just regard to the dignity of the country, to permit Mr. Catacazy to continue to hold interviews with this Government. After his abuse of the Government, the inexcusable course of the Russian Minister at Washington rendered it necessary to ask his recall and to decline to longer receive that functionary as a diplomatic representative. That there is no desire on the part of this Government to diminish the cordiality of these relations, the hospitable reception given to the Grand Duke is a proof, and that on our side we share the wishes of the reasonable assurance of a permanent peace, and that the intimate, friendly relations which have so long existed between the United States and Russia may continue undisturbed, the visit of the third son of the Emperor is a proof. CLAIMS AGAINST SPAIN.

The Forty-first Congress at its third session made an appropriation for the organization of a mixed commission for adjudicating upon the claims of cit-zens of the United States against Spain, growing out of the insurrection in Cuba. That commission has since been organized. I transmit herewith the corspondence relating to the formation and its jurisdiction. It is to be hoped that this commission will afford the claimants a complete remedy for their injuries.

RELATIONS OF SPAIN AND SOUTH AMER-

ICA. of the United States to preside over a Conference at Washington between the plenipotentiaries of Spain and the allied South American Republics, which has resulted in an armistice with the growing out of the insurrection in Cuba. That commission has since been organized. I transmit herewith the correspondence relating to its formation and jurisdiction. It is to be hoped that this commission will afford the claimants a complete remedy for their grievances under the obligations of na-

JAPAN, CHINA AND COREA. With Japan we continue to maintain intimate relations. The Cabinet of the Mikado has, since the close of the last Congress, selected citizens of the United States to serve in offices of importance in several departments of his Government. I have reason to think that this selection is due to an appreciation of the disinterestedness of the policy which the United States has pursued toward Japan. The correspondence transmitted herewith shows there is no disposition on the part of this Government to swerve from its established

Impelled by a desire to put an end to the barbarous treatment of our shipwrecked sailors on the Corean coast, I instructed our Ministerat Pekin to endeavor to conclude a convention with Corea for securing the safety and humane treatment of such mariners. Admiral Rodgers was instructed to accompany him with a sufficient force to protect him in case of need. A small surveying party sent out, on reaching the coast, was treacherously attacked at a disadvantage. Ample opportunity was given for explanation and apology for the insult; neither came. A force was then landed. After a march of an hour in a rugged and difficult country, the forts from which the outrages had been committed were gallantly assaulted and were destroyed. Having thus punished the criminals, and having vindicated the honor of the flag, the expedition returned, finding it impracticable, under the circumstances, to conclude the desired convention. I respectfully refer to the correspondence relating thereto, herewith submitted, and leave the subject for such action as Congress may see fit to take.

To give importance and to add to the efficiency of our diplomatic relations with Japan and China, and to further increase the good opinion of those people, and to secure to the United States its share of the commerce destined to flow between those nations and the balance of the commercial world, I earnestly recommend that an appropriation be made to support at least four American youths in each of those countries, to serve as a part of the official family of our Ministers there. Our representatives would not even then be placed upon an equality with the representatives of Great Britain and some other Powers as now situated, for representatives in Japan and China have to depend for interpreters and translators upon the natives of those countries, who know our language imperfectly, or procure for the occasion the services of employees in foreign business houses, or the interpreters to other foreign

Ministers. I would also recommend liberal measures for the purpose of supporting the American lines of steamers now Japan and China, and the Australian to the subject.

has received the commendation of the line, almost our only remaining lines of ocean steamers, and of increasing their service.

MEXICO AND SOUTH AMERICA REPUB-

LICS. The Republic of Mexico has not ye recalled the very objectionable laws, comprising what is known as the "free zone" on the frontier of the United States. It is hoped that this may yet be done, and also that stringent measures may be taken by the Republic, restraining lawless persons on its fron-tier. I hope that Mexico, by its own action, will soon relieve this Government of the difficulties experienced from these causes.

Our relations with various Republics. Continental and South American, continue, with one exception, to be cordial and friendly. I recommend some action by Congress regarding the overdue installments under the award of the Venezuela Claims Commission of 1863. The internal dissentions of that Government present no justification for the absence of effort to meet their solemn obligations. The ratification of an extradition treaty with Nicaragua has been exchanged.

BRAZIL AND SLAVERY. It is a subject of congratulation that the great Empire of Brazil has taken the initiatory steps toward the abolition of slavery. Our relations with that Empire, alway cordial, will naturally be more so by this act. It is not too much may hereafter find it for its interest as well as internationally right to advance toward entire emancipation more rapidly than the present act contemplates. The true prosperity and greatness of a nation is to be found in the elevation and education of its laborers. It is a subject for regret that the reforms in this direction which were voluntarily promised by the statesman of Spain have not been carried out in the East India colonies. The laws and regulations for apparent abolition of slavery in Cuba and Porto Rico leave most of the laborers in bondage with no hope of release until their lives become a burden to their employers. I direct your attention to the fact that citizens of the United States are large holders in foreign lands of this species of prop-erty forbidden by the fundamental law of their country. I recommend to Congress to provide by stringent legislation a suitable remedy against the holding, owning or dealing in slaves or being interested in slave property in foreign lands, either as owners, hirers or mortgagers, by citizens of the United

It is to be regretted that the disturbed condition of the island of Cuba continues to be a source of annoyance and anxiety. The existence of a protracted struggle in such a cause in close proximity to our own territory, without apparent prospect of an early termination, cannot be other than an object of concern to a people who, while abstaining from interference in the affairs of other Powers, naturally desire It has been made the agreeable duty to see every country in the undisturbed commanders in Cuban waters have been instructed, in case it should become necessary, to spare no effort to protect the lives and property of bona fide American citizens, and to maintain the dignity of the flag. It is hoped that all pending questions with Spain growing out of the affairs in Cuba may be adjusted in the spirit of peace and conciliation which has heretofore governed the two Powers in their treatment of such questions.

THE NATIONAL DEBT AND FINANCE. The national debt has been reduced to the extent of \$86,057,126 during the year; and by the negotiations of national bonds at a lower rate of interest the interest on the public debt has been so far diminished that now the sum to be raised for interest account is nearly \$17,000,000 less than on the 1st of March, 1869. It was highly desirable that this rapid diminution should take place, both to strengthen the credit of the country and to convince its citizens of their entire ability to meet every dollar of liability without bankrupting them. But in view of the accomplishment of these desirable ends, of the rapid development of the resources of the country, its increasing ability to meet large demands, and the amount already paid, it is not desirable that the present resources of the country should continue to be taxed in order to continue this rapid payment.

THE TARIFF AND INTERNAL TAXES. I therefore recommend a modification of both the tariff and internal tax laws. I recommend that all taxes from internal sources be abolished, except those on spirituous, vinous and malt liquors, tobacco in its various forms, and stamps. In readjusting the tariff, I suggest that a careful estimate be made of the amount of surplus revenue collected under the present laws after providing for the current expenses of the Government, the interest account, and a sinking fund; and that this surplus be reduced in such manner as to afford the greatest relief to the greatest number. There are many articles not produced at home, such as medicines compounded, from which very little revenue is derived, but which enter into general use. All such articles I recommend to be placed on the free list. Should a further reduction prove advisable I would then recommend that it be made on those articles which can bear it without disturbing the home production or reducing the wages of the American laborer. I have not entered into figures, because to do so would be to repeat all that will be laid before you in the report of the Secretary cf the Treasury.

COLLECTING REVENUES. The present laws for collecting the revenues pay the Collectors of Customs small salaries, but provide for shares in all seizures, which, at the principal ports of entry particularly, raise the compensation of these officers to a large sum. It has always seemed to me that this system must at times work perniciously. It holds out in-ducements to dishonest men, should such get possession of those offices, to be lax in their scrutiny of the goods entered so as to enable them finally to make money out of the seizures.

THE CURRENCY.

The continued comparative difference in the value of gold as compared with the national currency has a most damaging effect upon the increase and development of the country. In keep-ing up the prices of all articles necessary in everyday life it fosters a species of gambling prejudicial alike to the national morals and national finances. If the question can be met as to how to fix the value of our currency, that value continually and in uniformity approaching par with specie, a very desirable object will be gained.

FOR THE OPERATION OF THE ARMY In the past year, and for the cost of maintaining it, the estimates for the ensuing year, and for continuing the seacoast and other improvements conducted under the supervision of the War Department, I refer you to the accompanying report of the Secretary of War. I call your attention to the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved March 3, 1869, which discontinues promotions in the staff corps of the army until provided for by the law. I recommend that the number of officers in each grade of the staff corps be fixed, and that whenever the number in any one grade falls below the number so fixed, that the vacancy may be filled by promotion from the grade below. I also recommend when the office of Chief of the Corps becomes vacant, that the place may be to hope that the Government of Brazil | filled by selection from the corps in which the vacancy exists.

NAVAL DEPARTMENT. The report of the Secretary of the Navy shows an improvement in the number and efficiency of the naval force, without material increase of the expense of supporting it. This is due to the policy which has been adopted, and is being extended as far as our material will permit, of using smaller vessels as cruisers on the several stations of the United States. We have been enabled to occupy at once a larger extent of cruising ground, to visit more frequently the ports where the presence of our flag is desirable, and generally to discharge more effi-ciently the appropriate duties of the navy in time of peace without exceeding the number of men or the expenditures authorized by law. During the past year the navy has, in addition to its regular service, supplied the men and officers for the vessels of the coast survey, and has completed the surveys authorized by Congress of the isthmuses of Darien and Tehnantepec. and under like authority has sent out an expedition, completely furnished and equipped, to explore the unknown ocean of the North. The suggestion of the report as to the necessity for increasing and improving the material of the Navy, and the plan recommended for reducing the personel of the service to a peace standard by the gradual abolition of certain grades of officers, the reduction of others, and the employment of some in the service of the commercial marine, are all for consideration, and deserve the thoughtful attention of Congress. I enjoyment of peace, liberty and the also recommend that all promotions blessings of free institutions. Our naval in the navy above the rank of Captain selection instead of by s niority. This course will secure in the higher grades greater efficiency, and hold out an incentive to young officers to improve themselves in the knowledge of their profession. The present cost of maintaining the navy, its cost as compared with that of the preceding year, and the estimates for the ensuing year, are contained in the accompanying report of the Secretary of the Navy.

POSTAL AFFAIRS.

The enlarged receipts of the Post Office, as is shown by the accompanying report of the Postmaster General. exhibits a gratifying increase in that branch of the public service. It is an index of the growth of education and of the prosperity of the people-two element-highly conductive to the vigor and stability of a republic. With a vast territory like ours, much of it sparsely populated, but all requiring the services of the mail, it is not at present to be expected that this department can be made self sustaining, but a gradual approach to this end from year to year, is confidently relied on, and the day is not far distant when the Post Office Department of the Government will prove a much greater blessing to the whole people than it is now. The suggestions of the Postmaster General for improvements in the department presided over by him are earnestly recommended to your special attention, especially documents favorable to the plan for uniting the telegraph system of the United States with the postal system. It is believed that by such a course the cost of telegraphing could be much reduced and the service as well if not better rendered. It would secure a further advantage, by extending the telegraph through portions of the country where private enterprise will not construct it, to commerce, trade, and above all, the efforts to bring a people widely separated into a community of interests, always benefited by a rapid intercommunication. Education, the ground-work of republican institutions, is encouraged by increasing the mail facilities, together with speedy news from all parts of the country. The desire to reap the benefits of such improvements will stimulate education. I refer you to the re-port of the Postmaster General for full details of the operations of last year and for comparative statements of results with former years.

THE KU-KLUX. There has been imposed upon the Executive branch of the Government the execution of the Act of Congress approved April 20, 1871, and commonly known as the Ku-Klux law, in a portion of the State of South Carolina. The necessity of the course pursued will be demonstrated by the report of the Committee to investigate Southern outrages. Under the provisions of the above Act I issued a proclamation calling the attention of the people of the plying between San Francisco and Your attention is respectfully invited to do so, for the purpose of securing to

the laws. After the passage of this law, information was received from time to time that combinations of the character referred to in this law existed, and were powerful in many parts of the Southern States, particularly in several counties of South Carolina. Careful investigations were made, and t was ascertained that in nine counties of that State such combinations were active and powerful, embracing a suf-ilcient portion of the citizens to con-trol the local authorities, and having among other things the object of de-priving the emancipated class of the substantial benefits of freedom, and of the privileges of free political action those citizens who did not sympathize with their own views. Among their operations were frequent scourgings and occasional assassinations, generally perpetrated at night by disguised persons, their victims in almost all cases being citizens of different political sentiments from their own, or free persons [of color], who had shown a disposition to claim their usual rights with other citizens. Thousands of inoffensive and well-disposed citizens were the sufferers by this lawless violence. Thereupon, on the 13th of October, 1871, a proclamation was issued in the terms of the law, calling upon the members of the combinations to disperse within five days, and to deliver to the Marshal or to the military officers of the United States all arms, ammunition, uniforms, disguises and other means and implements used by them for carrying out their unlawful purposes. This warning not having been heeded, on the 17th of October another proof mation was issued sus-pending the writ of habeas corpus in ine counties in that State, and directions were given that within the counties so designated persons supposed, upon credible information, to be members of such unlawful combinations, -hould be arrested by the military forces of the United States and delivered to the Marshal, to be dealt with according to law. In two of said counties many arrests have been made. At the ast accounts the number of persons thus arrested was one hundred and sixty-eight. Several hundred, whose criminarity was ascertained to be of an inferior degree, were released for the present. These have generally made confessions of their guit. Great caution has been exercised in making these arrests, and notwithstanding the large number, it is believed that no innocent person is now in custody. The prisoners will be held for regular rial in the judicial tribunals of the United States. As soon as it appeared that the authorities of the United states were about to take rigorous measures to enforce the law, many persons absconded, and there is good grounds for supposing that all of such persons have been living in violation

AFFAIRS IN UTAH.

of the law. A full report of what has

been done under this law will be sub-

In Utah there still remains a remnant of barbarism, repugnant to civili-United States. Territorial officers, however, have been found who are willing to perform their duty in a spirit of equity and with a due sense of snstaining the majesty of the law. Neither polygamy nor any other violation of existing statutes will be permitted within any Territory of the United States. It is not with the religion of the self-styled Saints that we are now dealing but their practices. They will be protected in the worship of God according to the dictates of their consciences, but they will not be permitted to violate the laws under the cloak of religion. It may be advisable for Congress to consider what, in the execution of the laws against polygamy, is the status of the several wives and these innocent children. This is a suggestion only, and not a recommen-

INDIAN RELATIONS. The policy pursued toward the Indians has resulted favorably, so far as can be judged from the limited time during which it has been in operation through the tribes under the various societies of Christians to whom has been entrusted the execution of the policy, and the Board of Commissioners authorized by the law of April 10, 1869. Many tribes of Indians have been induced to settle upon reservations, to cultivate the soil and perform labor of various kinds, and partially to accept civilization. They are being care for in such a way, it is hoped, as to induce those still pursuing their old habits of life to embrace the only opportunity which is left them to avoid extermination. I recommend liberal appropriations to carry out the Indian peace policy, not only because it is humane, Christian-like and economical, but because it is right. I recommend to your favorable con-sideration, also, the policy of granting a territorial government to Indians on the Indian Territory west of Arkansas and Missouri, and south of Kansas In doing so every right guaranteed to the Indians by treaty should be secured. Such a course might in time be the means of collecting most of the Indians now between the Missouri and Pacific and south of the British Possessions, into one Territory or State.
The Secretary of the Interior has a treaty upon this subject at length, and I recommend to you his suggestions.

PUBLIC LANDS.

I renew my recommendation that the public land shall be regarded as a heritage to our children, to be dis-posed of only as required for occu-pation and to actual settlers. Those actually granted have been in great part disposed of in such a way as to United States to the same, and declaring my reluctance to exercise any of the extraordinary power thereby conferred upon me, except in case of imperative necessity; but making known my purpose to exercise such powers whenever it should become necessary to do so, for the purpose of securing to all citizens of the United States the secure access to the balance by the

peaceful enjoyment of the rights guar- the General Government for the enanteed them by the constitution and couragement of education. The report of the Secretary of the Interior, sub-mitted with this will give you infor-mation collected and prepared for publication in regard to the census taken during the year 1870, the operations of the Bureau of Education for the year, the Patent Office, the Pension Office, Land Office and the Indian

AGRICULTURAL BUREAU OFFICIALS. The report of the Commissioners of Agriculture gives the operations of his Department for the year. As agriculture is the ground-work of our prosperity, too much importance cannot be attached to the labors of this Department in the hands of an able head with able assistants, all zealously de-voted to introducing into the agricultural productions of the nation all useful products adapted to any of the various climates and soils of our vast territory, and to giving all useful in-formation as to the method of cultivation of the plants and c reals and other products adapted to particular localities. The Agricultural Bureau is working a great national good, and if liberally supported the more widely its influence will be extended and the less dependent we will be upon the products of foreign countries.

The subject of compensation to the Heads of Bureaus and officials holding positions of responsibility, and requir-ing ability and character to fill them properly, is one to which your atten-tion is invited. But few of the officials receive a compensation equal to the respectable support of a family, while their duties are such as to involve millions of interest. In private life such services would demand compensation equal to the services relatered. A wise policy would dictate the same rule in the Government service. I have not given the estimate for the support of the Government for the ensuing year, or a comparative statement between the expenditures for the year just past and the one just preceding, because all those figures are con-tained in the accompanying reports, or in these presented directly to Congress. These estimates have my approval.

GENERAL AMNESTY. More than six years having elapsed since the last hostile gun was fired between the armies then arrayed against each other-one for the perpetuation, the other for the destruction of the Union-it may well be considered whether it is not now time the disabilities imposed by the Fourteenth Amendment should be removed. That Amendment does not exclude the ballot, but only requires the disability to hold office of certain classes. When the purity of the ballot-box is secure, by a majority sure to elect officers re-flecting the views of the majority. I do not see the advantage or propriety of excluding men from office merely because they were before the rebellion of a standing and character sufficient to be elected to positions requiring them to take the oath to support the Constitution and admitting the eligibility of those entertaining the same views, but of less standing in their communimitted to Congress by the Attorney laws of the ties. It may be said the former violated an oath, while the latter did not have it in their power to do so. If they had taken this oath it can't be doubted that they would have broken it as did the former class. If there are any great criminals distinguished above all others for the part they took in opposition to the Government, they might, in the judgment of Congress, be ex-cluded from such an amnesty. This subject is submitted for your careful

consideration. THE SOUTHERN STATES.

The condition of the Southern States is, unhappily, not such as all true, patriotic citizens would like to see. Social ostracism for opinion's sake, personal violence or threats toward persons entertaining political views op-posed to those entertained by the ma-jority of the citizens, prevent immigra-tion and the flow of much model and their offspring. The propriety of Congress passing an enabling act authorizing the Territorial Legislature of tion and the flow of much needed capi-Utah to legitimatize all born prior to a | tal into the States lately into rebellion. time fixed in the act might be sustain-ed by considerations of humanity to country when the old citizens of the States will take an interest in publicaffairs, tolerate an idea honestly entertained, vote for men representing their views, and permit the freedom of expression and ballot in those entertaining different political convictions.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. Under the provisions of the act of Congress approved February 21st, 1871, a Territorial Government was organized in the District of Columbia. Its results have thus far fully realized the expectations of its advocates. Under the direction of the territorial officers a system of improvements has been inaugurated by means of which Washington is rapidly becoming a city worthy of the nation's capitol. The citizens of the District having voluntarily taxed themselves to enlarge the amount for the purpose of contributing to the advancement of the sent of Government, I recommend liberal appropriations on the part of Congress, in order that the Government may bear its just share of the expense of carrying out various systems of improve-

THE CHICAGO FIRE.

By the great fire in Chicago the most important Government buildings in that city were destroyed. Those burnt had already become inadequate to the wants of the Government in that growing city, and, looking to the near fu-ture, were totally insufficient. I recommend, therefore, that an appropriation be made immediately to purchase the remainder of the square on which the burned buildings stood, provided it can be purchased at a fair valuation, and provided the Leg-islature of Illinois will pass a law au-thorizing the condemnation of the land for Government purposes; and also an appropriation of as much money as can be properly expended toward the erection of Government building.

IMMIGRATION. During the fiscal year the number of immigrants, ignorant of our laws