The Important Features of the Chief Executives' Address to Congress.

to the Congress of the United States: As representatives of the people in the tive branch of their government, you mbled at a time when the strength excellence of our free institutions and excellences of our citizens to enjoy and the fitness of our citizens to enjoy and the little have been again made mani-popular rule have been again made mani-fest. A political contest involving moment ous consequences, fraught with feverish eus consequences, fraught with leversh apprehension, and creating aggressiveness to intense as to approach bitterness and been waged throughout our and and determined by the decree of free land, and determined by the decree of free and independent suffrage without disturb-ance of our tranquility or the least sign of weakness in our national structure. When we consider these incidents and contemplate the peaceful obedience and which have succeeded a many succeeded a heated clash of political opinions, we dis-cover abundant evidence of a determination on the part of our countrymen to ablife on the part of the popular will, and to every verifict of the popular will, and to be controlled at all times by an abiding faith in the agencies established for the firection of the affairs of their government. Thus, our people exhibit a patriotic disposition, which entitles them to demand of those who undertake to make and exeeuts their laws such faithful and unseifish service in their behalf as can only be promoted by a serious appreciation of the trust and confidence which the acceptance

ubile duty invites,
abedience to constitutional require ment, I hereby submit to the congress ertain information concerning national afcertain information concerning factors at fairs, with the suggestion of such legislaand expedient. To secure brevity and to aveid thresome narration, I shall omit many details concerning matters within federal control, which, by no means un-important, are more profitably discussed

I shall also further curtail this communieation by omitting a minute recital of any minor incidents connected with our foreign relations which have beretofore found a place in executive messages, but are now contained in a report of the secretary state, which is herewith submitted.

FOREIGN RELATIONS. America a Refuge for Persecuted Armenians,

At the outset of a reference to the more important matters affecting our relations with foreign powers, it would afford me satisfaction if I could assure the congress that the disturbed conditions in Asiatic Turkey had during the past year assumed a less hideous and bloody aspect, and that, either as a consequence of the awakening of the Turkish government to the demand of humane civilization or as the result of a decisive action on the part of the great nations having the right by treaty to interfere for the protection of those exposed to the rage of mad higotry and cruel fanaticism, the shocking features and crues fanntnesses, the shocking features of the situation had been mitigated. Instead, however, of welcoming a softened disposition or protective intervention, we have been afflicted by continued and not infrequent reports of the wanton destruction of homes and the bloody butchery of men, women and children; made martyrs to their profession of Christian

While none of our citizens in Turkey have thus far been killed or wounded, though often in the midst of dreadful scenes of danger, their safety in the future is by no means assured. Our gov-erament at home and our minister at Con-stantinople have left nothing undone to protect our missionaries in Ottoman territiry, who constitute nearly all the indi-viduals restiling there who have a right to claim our protection on the score of

direction will not be relaxed, but the deep feeling and sympathy and judgment as to lead them to demand impossible things. The outbreaks of blind fury which lead to murder and pillage in Turkey, occur suddenly and without notice. and an attempt on our part to force a hostile presence there as might be ef-fective for prevention or protection would not only be resisted by the Ottoman gov-eriment, but would be regarded as an interruption of their plans by the great nations who assert their exclusive right to intervene in their own time and method for the security of life and property in

for the security of the and positioned in Turkey.

Several naval vessels are stationed in the Mediterranean as a measure of caution and to furnish all possible relief and refuge in case of emergency.

Claims Against Turkey.

Claims Against Turkey.

We have made claims against the Turkish government for the pillage and destruction of missionary property at Harput and Marash, during uprisings at these places. Thus far, the validity of these demands has not been admitted, though our minister, prior to such outrages, and in anticipation of danger, demanded pretection for the persons and property of our missionary citizens in the localities mentioned, and notwithstanding that strong evidence exists of the actual complicity of Turkish soldiers in the work of destruction and robbery. The facts, as they now appear, do not permit us to doubt the least to the service of the now appear, do not permit us to doubt the justice of those claims, and nothing will be emitted to bring about their prompt

A number of Armenian refugees having arrived at our ports, and an order having lately been obtained from the Turkish government permitting the wives and children of such refugees to join them here, it is hoped that hereafter no obstacle will be interposed to prevent the scape of all those who seek to avoid the perils which threaten them in Turkish doerils which threaten them in Turkish do-

Our recently appointed consul to Erze-toum is at his post and discharging the duties of his office, though for some unac-countable reason his formal exequatur from the sulfan has not been issued.

I do not believe that the present somher prespect in Turkey will be

i do not believe that the present somber prespect in Turkey will be long permitted to offend the sight of Christendom. It so mans the humane and enlightened civilitation that belongs to the close of the 18th century, mat it seems hardly possible that the earnest demand of good people throughout the Christian world for its corrective freetrent will remain unanrective treatment will remain unan-

THE CUBAN QUESTION. Priendly Offices of the United States Offered to Settle the War.

insurrection in Cuba still continues, with all its perplexities. It is difficult to perceive that any progress has thus far lein made towards the pacification of the bland, or that the situation of affairs, as declarate. depicted in my last annual message, has in

If Spain still holds Havana and the seapers and all the considerable towns, the assurents still roam at will over at least two-thirds of the inland country. The determination of Schand rountry down the insingular of the inland country. The ac-singular of Spain to put down the in-rection seems but atrengthened with lapse of time, as is evinced by her healtating devotion of largely increased military and naval forces to the task. There is much reason to believe that the argents have gained in number, charinfertile in their resolve not to succumb silibut practically securing the great object for which they took up arms. If Spain has not yet re-established her substity, neither have the insurgents yet had good their title to be recorded.

hade good their title to be regarded as an appearant state. Indeed, as the contest has seen as the contest of the seen as the contest of the seen as t ha gone on, the pretense that civil gov-forment exists on the island, except so far as Spain is able to maintain it, has been particulty. amorally abandoned. Spain does are a feet such a government, more or less aperfacily, in the large towns and their that exception the entire country is either unation of one or the other reported, indeed, on reliable hat at the demand of the comin-thief of the insurgent army potative Cuban government has now End BD all attempt to exercise its func-

ly (what there is best reason for supposing it always to have been in fact) a gov-ernment merely on paper.

Destruction of Property.

Destruction of Property.

Meanwhile, as in all cases of protracted civil strife, the passions of the combatants grow more and more inflamed, and excesses on both sides become more frequent and more adeplorable. They are also participated in by bands of marauders who now in the name of one party, and now in the name of the other, as may best suit the occasion, harass the country at will and plunder its wretched inhabitants for their own advantage. Such a condition of things would inevitably entail immense destinction of property, even if it were the policy of one party to prevent it as far as practicable. But while such section to be the original policy of the Spanish government, it has now apparently abandoned it, and is acting upon the same theory as the insurgents, namely: That the exigencies of the contests require the wholesale annithe contests require the wholesale anni-hilation of property that it may not prove of any use and advantage to the enemy. of any use and advantage to the enemy ft is to the same end that, in pursuance of general orders, Spanish garrisons are now being withdrawn from plantations, now being withdrawn from being renow being withdrawn from plants and the rural population is being required to concentrate itself in the town. The sure result would seem to be that the industrial value of the island is fast di-minishing, and that unless there is a speedy and radical change in the existing conditions it will soon disappear alta-gether. gether.

Our Concern in Cuba-The speciacle of the utter ruin of an adjoining country, by nature one of the most fertile and charming on the whole would engage the serious attention f the government and the people of th United States in any circumstances. In point of fact, they have a concern with it which is by no means of a wholly senti-mental or philanthropic character. It lies so near to us as to be hardly separated from our territory. Our actual pecuniary interest in it is second only to that of the people of Spain. It is reasonably estimated that at least from \$30,000,000 to \$50,000,000 of American capital is invested in planta-tions and in railroads, mining and other business enterprises on the island. The volume of trade between the United States and Cuba, which in 1889 amounted to about \$51,000,000, rose in 1836 to about \$102,000,000, and in 1894, the year before the present insurrection broke out, amounted to nearly \$96,000,000.

Demand for Intervention.

These inevitable entanglements of the United States with the rebellion in Cuba, the large American property interests affected, and considerations of philan-thropy and humanity in general, have led to a vehement demand in various quar-ters for some sort of positive intervention on the part of the United States. It was at first proposed that beligerent rights should be accorded the insurgents, a proposition no longer weighed because its untimely and impractical operation would be clearly perilons and injurious to our interests. It has since been and is now sometimes contended that the independ-ence of the insurgents should be recog-nized. But, imperfect and restricted as the Spanish government of the island may be, no other exists there, unless the will of the military officer in temporary command of a particular district can be dig-nified as a species of government. It is now also suggested that the United States should buy the island-a suggestion po sibly worthy of consideration if there were any evidences of a desire or willinguess on the part of Spain to enter-tain such a proposal. It is urged, finally, that, all other methods failing, the existing internecine strife in Cuba should be terminated by our intervention, even at the cost of a war between the United States and Spain-a war which its advo-cates confidently prophesy could neither be large in its proportions nor doubtful

A Character to Maintain. The correctness of this forecast need be neither affirmed nor denied. The United

States has, nevertheless, a character to maintain as a nation, which plainly dic-tates that right and not might should be the rule of its conduct.

Further, though the United States is not a nation to which peace is a necessity, is is, in truth, the most pacific of powers and desires nothing so much as to live in amity with all the world. Its own ample and diversified domain satisfies all possible longings for terri-tory, precludes all claims of conquest and on neighboring regions, however attrac

dominions has constituted no exception this national disposition is made manifest this national disposition is made manifest by the course of our government, not only thus far during the present insurrection, but during the 10 years that followed the rising of Yara in 1868. No other great power, it may safely be said, under cir-cumstances of similar perplexity, would have manifested the same restraint and the same patient endurance.

Respect for Spain.

It may also be said that this persistent attitude of the United States towards Spain in connection with Cuba unques-tionably evinces no slight respect and re-gard for Spain on the part of the Amergard for Spain on the part of the Amer-ican people. They, in truth, do not forget her connection with the discovery of the Western hemisphere, nor do they under-estimate the great qualities of the Spain-ish people, nor fail to fully recognize their splendid particles and their chivalrous the patients. They devotion to the national honor. They yiew with wonder and admiration the cheerful resolution with which vast bodles of men are sent across thousands of miles of ocean and an enermous debt ac-cumulated that the costly possession of the Gem of the Antilles may still hold its place in the Spanish crown. And yet neither the government nor the

And yet neither the government nor the people of the United States have shut their eyes to the course of events in Cuba nor have failed to realize the extent of conceded grievances which have led to the present revolt from the authority of Spain, grievances recognized by the queen regent and by the cortes, voiced by the most patriotic and enlightened of Spanish statesmen without regard to party, and demonstrated by reforms proposed by the statesmen without regard to party, and demonstrated by reforms proposed by the executive and approved by the legislative branch of the Spanish government. It is in the assumed temper and disposition of the Spanish government to remedy these grievances, fortified by indications of influential public opinion in Spain, that fluential public opinion in Spain, that this government has hoped to discover the most promising and effective means of composing the present strife with honor and advantage to Spain and with the achievement of all the ostensible objects of the insurrection.

A Way Out of It.

A Way Out of it.

Nevertheless, realizing that suspicions on the part of the weaker of the two combatants are always natural and not always unjustifiable, being sincerely desirous in the interest of both as well as on our own account that the Cuban problem should be solved with the least possible delay, it was intimated by this government to the government of Spain some months ago that if a satisfactory measure of home rule were induced the Cuban insurgents, and would be accepted by them upon a guaranty of its execution, the United States would endeavor to find a way not objectionable to Spain of furnishing such guaranty.

While no definite response to this intimation has yet been received from the Spanish government, it is believed to be not altogether unwelcome, while, as already suggested, no reason is perceived why it should not be approved by the insurgents. Neither party can fail to see the importance of early action, and both must realize that to prolong the present state of things for even a short period will and expenditure necessary to bring about the industrial recuperation of the Island. It is, therefore, fervently hoped on all grounds that carness efforts for healing the breach between Spain and the insurgent Cubants upon the lines above indicated may be at once inaugurated and pushed to an immediate successful issue. The friendly offices of the United States, either in the manner above cutlined or in any other way consistent with our constitution and laws, will always be at the disposal of either party.

Whatever policy may arise, our policy and our interest would constrain us to object to the acquisition of the island of to any interference with its control by any other power.

to any interference with its control by any

Conflict Must Soon Pad.

It should be added that it cannot be rea-sonably assumed that the hitherto expectant attitude of the United States will be indefinitely manual anxious to accord all due respect to the sovereignty of Spain, we cannot when the pending conflict in all its features and properly apprehend our close relations to t and its possible results without considering that by the course of events we may be drawn into such an unusual and unprecedented condition as will fix a limit to our patient waiting for Spain to end the contest, either alone and in her own way, or with our friendly co-operation.

When the inability of Spain to deal successful with

ceasfully with the insurgents has become manifest, and it is demonstrated that her sovereignty is extinct in Cuis for all purposes of its rightful existence, and when a hopeless struggle for its re-establish-ment has degenerated into a strife which means nothing more than the useless sacrifice of human life and the unifer destruction of every subject matter of the conflict, a situation will be presented in which our obligations to the sovereignty of Spain will be superseded by higher obligations, which we can hardly hestiate to recognize and discharge. Deferring the choice of ways and methods until the time for action arrives, we should make them depend upon the precise conditions, then are for action arrives, we should make them depend upon the precise conditions then existing; and they should not be determined upon without giving careful heed to every consideration involving our bonor and interest, or the international duty we own to Spain. Until we face the contingencies suggested, or the situation is by other incidence imperatively changed, we should continue in the line of conduct heretotrepursued, thus in all directions are exhibiting our obedience to the requirements of

pursued, thus in all direumstances exhibiting our obedience to the requirements of public law and our regard for the duty enjoined upon us by the position we occupy in the galaxy of nations.

A contemplation of emergencies that may arise should plainly lead us to avoid their creation, either through a carefuse disregard of present duty or even an undue stimulation and ill-timed expression of feeling. But I have deemed it not amass to remind the congress that a time may arrive when a ongress that a time may arrive when correct policy and care for our interests, as well as regard for the interests of other nations and their citizens, joined by considerations of humanity and a desire to see a rich and fertile country, intimately related to us, saved from complete devastiction, will constrain our averagement. tion, will constrain our government to such action; will subserve the interests involved and at the same time promise to Cuba and ts inhabitants an opportunity to enjoy the blessings of peace.

THE VENEZUELA BOUNDARY. Negotiations for a Treaty of General

Arbitration.

The Venezuela boundary question has eased to be a matter of difference boxween Great Britain and the United States, their respective governments having agreed upon he substantial provisions of a treaty between Great Hritain and Venezuela, sub-mitting the whole controversy to arbitra-tion. The provisions of the treaty are so eminently just and fair that the assent of Venezuela thereto may confidently be an-

Negotiations by a treaty of general arbitration for all differences between Great Britain and the United States are far advanced, and promise to reach a successful

TREASURY DEPARTMENT. Excess of Expenditures Over Receipts.

The secretary of the treasury reports that during the fiscal year saided June 20, 1896, the receipts of the government from sources amounted to \$409,475,408 76. During the same period, its expenditures were \$434,678,654 48, the excess of expenditures over receipts thus amounting to \$25-200,345 72. The ordinary expenditures dur-ing the year were \$4,05,852 21 less than during the preceding fiscal year. Of the receipts mentioned, there were derived from customs the sum of \$180.021.751 87, and from internal revenue \$146,839,615-66. receipts from customs show an increase of \$7,863,134.22 over those from the same source for the fiscal year ending June

10, 1835, and the receipts from internal revenue an increase of £1,584,537 91. The value of our imported dutiable merchandles during the last fiscal year was \$999,757,770, and the value of free goods imported \$409,967,470, being an increase of \$6.523.675 in the value of dutiable goods and \$41,231,004 in the value of free goods over the preceding year. Our exports of merchandise, foreign and domestic, amounted in value to \$82,603,08, being an increase over the preceding year of \$75,on dutiable goods imported during the year was 39.94 per cent, and on free and tutiable goods taken together 20.55 per

The cost of collecting the internal revenue was 2.78 per cent, as against 2.81 cent for the fiscal year ending June 30, service, we have this exhibit;

From the lifesaving service it is reported that the number of disasters to documented vessels within the limits of its operations during the year was 537. These vessels had on board 4608 persons, of whom 4506 were saved and 13 lost. The whom 4596 were saved and E lost. The value of such vessels is estimated at 15,850,149, and of their cargoes \$1,846,259, making the total value of property imperiled \$12,759,529, Of this amount, \$11,-292,767 was saved and \$1,412,759 was lost. Sixty-seven of the vessels were totally wrecked. There were besides 243 casualties to small undocumented craft, on board of which there were 154 persons, of whom 157 were saved and seven lost. The whom 587 were saved and seven lost, value of the property involved in these latter casualties is estimated at \$119.365, of which \$114,965 was saved and \$4350 was lost. The lifesaving crews during the year also rescued or assisted numerous other vessels and warned many from danger by vessels and warned many from danger by signals, both by day and night. The num-ber of disasters during the year exceeded that of any previous year in the history of the service, but the saving of both life and property was greater than ever before in proportion to the value of the property involved and to the number of persons

Marine Hospital Service.

The operations of the marine hospital service, the revenue cutter service, the steamhoat inspection service, the Ughthouse service, the bureau of navigation and other branches of public work attached to other branches of public work attached to the treasury department, together with various recommendations concerning their support and improvement, are fully stated in the report of the secretary of the treas-ury, to which the attention of congress is especially invited.

THE WAR DEPARTMENT. Little Active Work for the Army During the Year.

hibits satisfactory committions in the several branches of the public service intrusted to his charge. The limit of our military

to supply the necessary force of artillery to meet the demands of this service.

Const Fortifications.

During the past year, rapid progress has een made toward the completion of the cheme adopted for the protection and transment of fortifications along our seawhile equal progress has been made providing the material for submarine efenses in connection with these works. It is peculiarly gratifying, at this time, note the great advance that has been made in this important undertaking since the date of my annual message to the 53d ongress at the opening of its second an-mal session in December, 1881. At that time, I informed the congress of the apprinching completion of nine 12-inch, 20 10-inch, and 38 S-inch high-power steel gues, and 38 IS-inch rifled mortars. This total then seemed insignificant compared with the great work remaining to be done, yet it was none the less a source of satisfaction to every citizen when he reflected that it represented the first installment of the new ordname of American design and American manufacture, and demonstrated our arillity to emply from our own resources gues of inexcelled power and accuracy. At that date, however, there were practically no carriages upon which to mount these gues, and only 31 emplacements for gues and soil only 31 emplacements for gues and only it emplacements for guns and r mortars. Nor were all these em-4 for mortars. Nor were all three run-placements in condition to recrive their armament. Only one high-power gun was at that time in position for the defense of the cutive coast. Since that time, the numet of guns actually completed has been corressed to 21 Hointh, 56 to inch, and 61 than filled mortars. In addition there are in process of con-

ion one 16-inch-type gun, 50 il-inch 66 thin h rifled mortars, in all 428 guns and

POSTOPPICE DEPARTMENT.

The Deficit Less Than in Former Years.

Our postoffice department is in good condition, and the exhibit made of its perations during the fiscal year ended June 19, 1896, if allowance is made for imperfections in the laws applicable to it. very satisfactory. The total receipts uring the year were \$2.499,308.40. The dal expenditures were \$30.626,286.84. exduring the year were \$0.400.206.40. The total expenditures were \$0.626.206.84 exclusive of \$1.536.308.27, which was earned by the Pacific railroads for transportation and credited on their debt to the government. There was an increase of receipts over the previous year of \$5.516.000.21, or 7.1 per cent. an increase of expenditures of \$3.536.121.02, or 4.42 per cent. The deficit was \$1.678.956.19 less than that of the previous year.

was 1,02,956-19 less than that of the pre-ceding year.

The chief expenditures of the postal ser-vice are regulated by law and are not in the control of the postmoster-general. All that he can accomplish by the most watch-ful administration and economy is to en-force prompt and thorough collection and accountings for public moneys and such inthor savings in small expenditures and in letting these contracts for postoffice suctting these contracts for postoffice sup illes and star service which are not regu-

piles and star service which are not regu-lated by statute.

An effective co-operation between the auditor's office and the postoffice depart-ment, and the making and enforcement of orders by the department requirink in-mediate notification to their sureties of any delinquencies on the part of post-masters and compelling such postmasters to make more frequent deposits of postal funds, have resulted in a prompter auditing of their accounts and much less default to the government than hereiofore.

The year's report shows large extensions of both star route service and railway mail service, with increased postal facilities. Much higher accuracy in handling mails has also been reached, as appears by the decrease of errors in the railway mail service and the reduction of mail mails refused to the deadletter. mail matter returned to the dead-letter

A Growing Abuse.

The deficit for the year, although much eas than that of the last and preceding years, emphasizes the necessity for legis lation to correct the growing abuse of second-class rates, to which a deficit is mainly attributable. The transmission at the rate of I cent a pound of serial li-braries, advertising sheets, "house or-saus" (periodicals advertising some particular "house" or institution), sample copies and the like, ought certainly to be discontinued. A glanne at the revenues received for the work done last year will show more plainly than any other statement the gross abuse of the postal service, and the growing waste of fix earnburs. The free matter carried in the mails for the department, offices, etc., of the government, and for congress, in pounds, amounted to 94,880,189. If this is offset against buildings for postoffices and stations, the rental of which would more than compensate for such free postal mercia. We have this switch.

Weight of mail matter (other than allove) transmitted through the mails for the year ending June 30 1892

the year enting June 30, 1896;		
	Weight	Reven
Domestic and foreign letters, postal cards, etc. Newspapers, periodicals (1 cent per pound) Books, seeds, etc. (8 cents per pound) Parcels, etc. (15 cents) per pound)	65,337,343 348,988,648 78,701,148 19,900,187	\$60,624, 2,996, 10,324, 3,320,

The remainder of our postal revenue, amounting to semething over \$5,000,000, was derived from box rents, registry fees, money-order business and other similar items. The entire expenditures of the department, including pay for transportation credited to the Pacific railroads, was \$52,185,195,11, which may be considered as the cost of receiving, carrying and deliver-ing the above mail matter. It thus appears that though the second-class matter constituted more than two-thirds of the total that was carried, the revenue derived from it was less than one-thirtieth of total expenses. The average revenue from each pound of first-class matter was 32 cents, from each pound of second-class matter 84 mills (of the second class 52.

matter \$5 mills (of the second class \$1-34,57 pounds was free matter); from each pound of third class, \$15.6 cents.

The growth of weight in second-class matter has been from 29,000,000 pounds in \$54 to \$12,00,000 in \$185, and to almost \$49,000,000 in \$185, and it is quite evident this increasing drawback is far outstripping any possible growth of postal revenues.

Our mall service should, of course, be Our mail service should, of course, be such as to meet the wants and even the conveniences of our people, with a direct charge upon them so light as to exclude the plea of our postoffice department being a money-making concern, but in the face of the constantly recurring deficiency in its revenues, and in view of the fact that we supply the best mall service in the world, it seems to me it is quite time to correct the abuses that swell enormously, our annual deficit. If we concede the public policy of carrying papers free in all branches of the public service intrusted to only the fact that we supply the best mail service on an excellent and proceed the world, it seems to me it is quite time to have a fixed by law, is constantly and only an excellent, and result progress and efficiency are apparent of fixed and the world, it seems to me it is quite time to correct the aboves that sweed common and the progress and efficiency are apparent of the consent of Great fitting, of an the suppression of sight indian distingtion and the suppression of the suppression of sight indian distingtion and the suppression of the suppression of sight indian distingtion and the suppression of the suppression of sight indiant distingtion and the suppression of the suppression of the suppression of the suppression of sight indiant distingtion and the suppression of the suppres

sential, too, that early provision be made the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, amount- during the preceding year,

new states and to railroads, or sold at a comparatively nominal sum.

The patenting of land, in execution of railroad grants has progressed rapidly furting the year, and since the 4th day of further land to the secretary that the remainder of our public lands should be more carefully dealt with, and their alemation guarded against by belter economy and greater prudence.

Distinct and more profitable opportunities, must agree that our tariff laws are only primarily institled as sources of the maintenance. Considered as to its sufficiency in this aspect, the present law can by no means fall inflight dealt with, and their alemation it has yielded hearly is concerning than was received from tariff duties in the presenting year. There was nevertheless, a deficit between our receipts and excendirailroad grants has progressed rapolly during the year, and since the 4th day of March, 1891, about 25,000.00 acres have thus been conveyed to these corporations. I agree with the secretary that the remainder of our public lands should be more carefully dealt with, and their allenation marched against by helfer covered. guarded against by belter economy and greater prudence.

Indian Affairs.

The total Indian population of the United States is 177,225, according to a census made in 1895, exclusive of those within the state of New York and those comprising the five civilized tribes. Of this number, there are approximately 28,000 children of school age. During the year, 25,286 of these were enrolled in schools. The progress which has attended recent efforts to extend In-dian school facilities and the anticipation of continued illustral appropriations to that end cannot fall to afford the utmost satis-faction to those who believe that the sin-cation of Indian chidren is a prime factor in the accomplishment of Indian civiliza-

It may be said in general terms that in every particular the improvement of the Indians under government has been most marked and encouraging. The secretary, the commissioner of Indian affairs, and the agents having charge of Indians to who allotments have been made, strongly the passage of a law prohibiting the liquor to allottees who have taken their lands in severalty. I carnestly join in this recommendation, and venture to express the hope that the Indian may be speedlily projected against this one greatest of all evils to his well-being and advance-

tent. The condition of affairs among the five civilized tribes, who occupy large tracts of land in the Indian territory and who have governments of their own, has assumed such an aspect as to render it al-most indispensable that there should be an entire change in the relations of these Indians to the general government. This seems to be necessary in furtherance of their own luterests, as well as for the protection of non-Indian residents in their territory. A commission organized and empowered under several recent laws is now negotiating with these Indians for the relinquishment of their courts and the division of their common lands in sever-alty, and are aiding in the settlement of the troublesome question of tribal mem-bership. The reception of their first prof-fers of negotiation was not encouraging. but through pattence and such conduct of their part as demonstrated that their in-tentions were friendly and in the interest of the tribes, the prospect of success has become more promising. The effort should be to save these Indians from the consequences of their own mistakes and Improvidence and to secure to the real Indian his rights as against intro-and professed friends who profit by retrogression. A change is also needed to protect life and property through the op-eration of courts conducted according to strict justice and strong enough to en-

force their mandates.

As a sincere friend of the Indian I am exceedingly anxious that these reforms should be accomplished with the consent and aid of the tribes, and that no necessity sity may be presented for radical or drastic legislation. I hope therefore that the commission now conducting ne-gotiations will soon be able to report that progress has been made toward a friendly adjustment of existing difficulties.

Pacific Railroads.

The secretary calls attention to the pub to the government. I deem it to be an im-portant duty to especially present this sui-ject to the consideration of the congress. On January 1, 1897, with the amount already matured, more than \$12,000,000 of the principal of the subsidy bonds issued by tion of the Union Pacific railway, including its Kansas line, and more than \$6,000,the postal ser- tral Pacific railway, including those issued the Western Pacific Railway on that day be pald by the government Without any reference to the application of the sinking fund now in the treasury, this will create such a default on the part of these companies to the government as will give it the right to at once institute pro-ceedings to foreclose its mortgage lien. In addition to this indebtedness that will be due January 1, 1807, there will mature between that date and January 1, 1809, the remaining principal of such subsidy bonds which must also be met by the govern-ment. These amount to more than \$20,-600,000 on account of the Union Pacific

lines, and exceed \$1,000.000 in the Central Pacific lines. The situation of these roads and the condition of their indebtedness to the goveroment have been fully set forth in the reports of various committees to the present and prior congresses, and as early as lss? they were thoroughly examined by a special commission appointed pursuant to an act of congress. The considerations requiring an adjustment of the government's elations to the companies have been clear-y presented, and the conclusion reached with practical uniformity that if these relations are not terminated they should be revised upon a basis securing their safe

ontinuance. Under a section of the act of congress passed March 3, 1887, the president is charged with the duty, in the event that any mortgage or other incumbrance para-mount to the interest of the United States in the property of the Pacific railroads shall exist and be lawfully liable to be enforced, to direct action of the depart-ments of the treasury and of justice in the protection of the interest of the United States by thorough judicial proceedings, including foreclosure of the government liens. In view of the fact that the congress has for a number of years almost constantly had under consideration plans for dealing with the conditions existing between these roads and the government, I have thus far felt justified in withholding action under the statute above mentioned

The Union Pacific Case In the case of the Union Pacific, how-ever, the situation has become especially and immediately urgent. Proceedings have been instituted to foreclose a first mortgage upon those aided parts of the main line upon which the government holds a second and subordinate mortgage Hen. In consequence of these proceedings and in-creasing complications, added to the default occurring on the 1st day of January, 1897.

exchange of commodities between the United States and other countries, and thus furnished a wider market for our products and manufacturing. The only entire membered, nothing in the retrespect of our public service will be as fortunate in force ended on the 20th day of June, 1506. In that year our imports increased over those of the previous year more than one of the previous year more than the previous y

the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, amounted to more than F157,000,000 or a greater sum than was appropriated for the entire maintenance of the government for the two fiscal years ended June 30, 1861.

Public Lands.

Our public lands, originally amounting to last only 600,0000 series, have been so reduced that only 600,00000 selli remain in gusernment control, excluding Alaska. The balance, being by far the most valuable portion, has been given away to settlers, to new states and to railroads, or sold at a producers better and more profuble opportunities.

defloit between our receipts and expenditures of a little more than \$25,000,000.

The situation was such in December, seven months before the close of the fiscal year, that the secretary of the treasury torstold a deficiency of \$17,000,000. The great and increasing apprehension and untility in business circles and the de-pression in all activities intervening since that time, resulting from causes perfectly well understood and entirely disconnected with our tariff law or its operation, seri-ously checked the imports we would have officerwise received and readily account for the difference between the estimate of the secretary and the actual deficiency as well as for a continued deficit. Indeed, it must be confessed that we could hardly have had a more unfavorable period than the last

We cannot reasonably hope that our re cuperation from this business depression will be sudden, but it has already set in with a promise of acceleration and con-

Use of the Surplus.

I believe our present tariff law, if allow-ed a fair opportunity, will in the near future yield a revenue which, with reasonably economical expenditures, will over-come all deficiencies. In the meantime, no heffett that has occurred, or may occur need excite or disturb us. To meet any such deficiency, we have in the treasury, is such deficiency, we have in the treasury, in addition to a gold reserve of \$100,000,000, a surplus of more than \$125,000,000 applicable to the payment of the expenses of the government, and which must, unless expended for that purpose, remain in useless hourd, or, if not extravagantly wasted, must, in any count, he prevented from unst, in any event, he perverted from he purpose of its exaction from our people. The payment, therefore, of any deficiency in the revenue from this fund is nothing sore than its proper and legitimate use, the government, thus applying a surplus ortunately in its treasury to the payment of expenses not met by its current reve-nues, is not at all to be likened to a man living beyond his income, and thus incur-ring debt or encoaching on his principal. It is not one of the functions of our gov-

ernment to accumulate and make addi-tions to a find not needed for immediate expenditure. With individuals, it is the chief object of struggle and effort. The chief object of struggle and effort. The application of an accumulated fund by the government to the payment of its running expenses is a duty. An individual living beyond his income and embarrassing himself with debt or drawing upon his accumulated fund of principal is either unformatical. The distinction fortunate or improvident. The distinction is as between a government charged with the duty of expending for the benefit of the people and for proper purposes all the money it receives from any source and the individual who is expected to mi fest a natural desire to avoid debt to accumulate as much as possible and to live within the income derived from such accumulations, to the end that they may be increased, or at least remain unimpaired, for the future use and enjoyment or himself and objects of his love and affection who may survive him. It is immeasurably better to appropriate our surplus to the payment of justifiable expenses than to allow it to become an invitation to reckless appropriations and ex-

Iravagant expenditures.

I suppose it will not be denied that under the present law our people obtain the necessaries of a comfortable existence at a cheaper rate than formerly. This is a matter of supreme importance, since it is the palpable duty of every just government to make the burdens of taxation as light a received. travagant expenditures, light as possible. The people should not be required to relinquish this privilege chean living, except under the stress

FINANCIAL MATTERS. The Weakness and Vices of Our Pres. ent Methods.

This reference to the condition and pros-pects of our revenues naturally suggests an allusion to the weakness and vices of our financial methods. They have been frequently pressed upon the attention of congress in previous executive communica-tions, and the inevitable danger of their continued toleration pointed out. Without now repeating these details, I cannot refrain from again earnestly presenting the necessity of the prompt reform of a sys-tem opposed to every rule of sound finance. and shown by experience to be fraught with

the gravest peril and perplexity.

The terrible war which shook the founds. tions of our government more than 30 years ago brought in its train the destruction of property; the wasting of our country's substance and the estrangement of brethren. These are now past and forgotten. Even the distressing loss of life the con-flict entailed is but a sacred memory which fosters patrioti: sentiment and keeps alive a tender regard for those who nobly died. And yet there remains with us today in full strength, as an incident of that 'remendous struggle, a feature of its finan-cial necessities not only unsuited to our present circumstances, but manifestly a disturbing menace to business security and an ever-present agent of monetary distress. Because we may be enjoying a temporary reitef from its depressing influence should not bull us into a false security nor lead us to forget the suddenness of past visita-

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. Exports of Farm Products.

The secretary reports that the value of our exports of farm products during the last fiscal year amounted to \$570,000,000, an increase of \$17,000,000 over those of the year immediately preceding. This state-ment is none the less welcome because of the fact that notwithstanding such in-crease the proportion of exported agriculcrease the proportion of exported agricul-tural products to our total exports of all descriptions fell off during the year. The benefits of an increase in agricultural exports being assured, the decrease in the proportion to our total exports is the more gratifying, when we consider that it is owing to the fact that such total exports

for the year increased more than \$75,000, The large and increasing exportation of our agricultural products suggests the great usefulness of the organization lately established in the department for must emphasize the mandate of the act of 1837, and give to executive duty under its provisions a more imperative aspect. Therefore, unless congress shall otherwise direct, or shall have previously determined upon a different solution of the problem, there will hardly appear to exist any reason for delaying, beyond the date of the default above mentioned, such executive action as will promise to subserve the public interests and save the government from the loss threatened by further inaction.

THE TARIFF.

Concluding Remarks.

In concluding this communication, its last words shall be an appeal to the congress for the most rigid economy is the expenditure of the money it holds in trust for the people. The way to perplaning extravagances is easy, but a return to frugality is difficult. When, however, it is considered that those who can bear the burdens of taxation have no guaranty of hemest care, save in the fidelity of their public servants, the duty of all possible retrenchment is plainly manifest. When our differences are forgotten and our cape

One for Many. Loving and faithful to the man I leved, As he was true to me,

With vision of his soul's predestined need, I forced him to go free. 1 watched him going slowly down the

Bawed with one grief I know. South wind and streamlet proffered him their aid. I sat alone with wor.

While life a burden on my shoulders lax-And tears still dimmed my eyes, I heard his grief, transmuted into some, Up from the valley rise. Other sad hearts will listen and be

soothed. Mine never can forget. 'Tis God's deep dealings with the souls

of men-I've nothing to regret.

M. A. M.

The fong of the Leaves. The dead leaves sighed to the pussing wind:

Carry us Far, far from here on thy mighty wings! Away to realms of fargotten things. Where the unwept dead a grave may find,

Carry us!

Cover us!

That the butterflies flitting overhead May see us not, unlovely and dead, Hide us from sight, for decay we must,

The dead leaves sighed to the flying dust;

Cover us! The dead leaves sighed to the chilling raint Weep for us!

For we shall blend with the roadside

And they who saw us in summer's prime Shall passing by, know us not again, Weep for us!

The dead leaves sighed to the falling SHOWT Bury us! Bury us deep in untrodden ways, Far from the glory of bygone days, Far from the summer of long ago. Bury us!

slime;

So the keen wind blew them far away: The dust enwrapped them in clouds of gray.

rain wept over their early doom. And the white snow silently built their tomb. Beatrice J. Prall, in the English Blus-

The Steersman. The fore shrouds bar the moonlit sand,

Aloft all taut, where the wind clouds skim. Alow to the cutwater sung and trim, And the man at the wheel sings low, sings he:

The port rail laps the sea;

"Oh sea room and fee room And a gale to run afore; From the Golden Gate to Sunda Strait.

But my heart lies song ashore.' Her hull rolls high, her nose dips low, The rollers flash alee-Wallow and dip, and the untossed screw

Sends heart throbs quivering through and through-And the man at the wheel sings low.

sings her "Oh, sen room and lee room And a gale to run afore;

Sou'east by south and a bone in her But my heart lies snug ashore,"

The helmsman's arms are brown and And pricked in his forearm be A ship, an anchor, a love knot true; A heart of red and an arrow of blue, And the man at the wheel sings low.

sings he: "Oh, sea room and lee room And a gale to run afore; The ship to her chart, but Jack to his

And my heart lies sung ashore." -The Bookman.

The tenderest songs that e'er were sung. Like dewy roses white, unfuried From his dear heart—embalmed among The morning memories of the world,

And one was Sorrow, one was Mirth. The Puck and Ariel of his strain Spread still their sparkling gossameres Above the purple flower of pain

And by the streaming fount of tears.

Two angels met to bless his birth-

scatter bloom, to scatter dew-

Ah! gentlest bosom Music knew!

The fancies wandrons Shakspeare drew-The tricksy ghosts of Avon's shore-Met in the moonlight of his view, As gently radiant as of yore, In his each human pulse could beat, Each noble heart could feed his fire;

All pleading tongues could him entreat; All wrongs awoke his tearful ire. And hear him breathe a woman's sigh! O ye who do her woes deplore,

Thrilled ever heart so pitcously, So sweetly eloquent before! The greenwood and the moldering hall Are quick with many an eerie tone; The pensive heart, it answers all,

For these are things the heart has known. While morn revisits homeward hills, And lights the poet's cottage nook; While pensive autumn overfills

The heart, as rain the meadow brook; While pity and compassion move In every generous heart and good-Be blessing with the bard we love,

The gentle shade of Thomas Hood!

Ogsaw Fellx, in New York Flow, a sur-

Progressive Civilianting