Spanish government has appointed consuls for Cuba, who have been provisionally recognized during the military administra-tion of the affairs of that island.

Ottoman Empire. The United States minister to Turkey continues, under instructions, to press for a money payment in satisfaction of the just claims for injuries suffered by American citizens in the disorders of several years past and for wrong done them by the Ottoman authorities. Some of these claims are of many years' standing. This government is hopeful of a general agreement in this regard.

VENERUELAN AFFAIRS.

Award in Boundary Dispute-The Castro Revolution.

The international comm tion appointed under the Anglo-Venezue-ian treaty of 1887, rendered an award on October 3 last whereby the boundary line between Venezuela and British Guisna is determined, thus ending a controversy which has existed for the greater part of the century. The award, as to which the applitrators were unanimous, while not meeting the extreme contention of either party, gives Great Britain a large share of the interior territory in dispute, and to Venezuela the entire mouth of the Orinoco, including Barimo point and the Caribbean littoral for some distance to the eastward. The decision appears to be equally satisfactory to both parties.

Venezuela has once more undergone a revolution. The insurgents, after a sanguinary engagement, in which they suf-fered much loss, railied in the mountainous interior and advanced toward the The bulk of the army having capital. The bank of the army having sided with the movement, President An-drade qui.ted Caracas, where General Castro set up a provisional government, with which our minister and the representatives of the other powers entered to diplomatic relations on the 20th of November, 1899.

EXTENSION OF TRADE.

Good Results of Work Done by Dip-

lomatic and Consular Officers In my last annual message, the progress noted in the work of the diplomati and consular offices in collecting informa-tion as to the industries and commerce of other countries, and in the care and promptitude with which the reports were printed and distributed, has continued during the past year, with increasingly valuable results in suggesting new sources of demand for American products and in pointing out the obstacles still to be overcome in facilitating the remarkable expansion of our foreign trade. It will doubtless be gratifying to congress to learn that the various agencies of the department of state are co-operating in these endeavors with zeal and effective-ness, which are not only receiving the cordial recognition of our business inter-ests, but are receiving the emulation of ests, but are receiving the emulation of other governments. In any arrangement for the great and compilicated work of obtaining official data of an economic character which congress may undertake, it is most important, in my judgment, that the results already secured by the efforts of the department of state should be considered with a view of judicious development and increased utility to our experiment and increased utility to our exopment and increased utility to our ex-

Bureau of American Republics. The interest taken by the various states orming the international union of American republics in the work of "is bureau is evidenced by the fact that for the first time since its creation in 1890 all the republics in Central and South America are now represented in it. The unanimous recommendation of the inter-national American conference providing for the international union of American republics stated that it should continue during a term of 10 years from the date of its organization, and no country becoming a member of the union should cease to be a member until the end of said period of 10 years, and, unless 12 months before the expiration of said period a majority of the members of the union had given to the secretary of state of the United States official notice of their wish to terminate the union at the end of its first period, that the union should continue to be maintained for an-other period of 10 years, and thereafter under the same conditions for successive periods of 10 years each. The period for notification expired on July 14, 1880, withany of the members having given the necessary notice of withdrawal. enance is therefore assured for the next 10 years.

AMERICAN EXPOSITIONS.

Pan-American Exhibit to Be Held at Buffalo in 1901.

The act to encourage the holding of the Pan-American exposition on the Niagara frontier, in the state of New York, in the year 1901, was approved on March 3, 1899. This exposition, which will be held in the city of Buffalo, in the near vicinity of the great Niagara cataract, and within a cay's journey of which reside 40,000,000 of our people, will be confined entirely to the Western hemisphere. Batinfactory assurances have already been given by the diplomatic representatives of Great Britain, the Mexican and the Central and South American republics, and most of the states of the United States, that their countries and states will make an unique, interesting and instruc-tive exhibit, peculiarly illustrative of their progress during the century which is about to close.

PEACE CONFERENCE.

Results of the Gathering Last May at The Hague.

In response to the invitation of his majesty the emperor of Russ'a, delegates from 25 countries were assembled at The Hague on the 18th of May, as members of a conference in the interest of peace. The commission from the United States consisted of Hon. Andrew D. White, the Hon. Beth Low, the Hon Stanford Newell; Captain Alfred T. Mahan, of the United States navy: Captain William T. Crozler, of the United States army, and Hon. Frederick W. Holls, secretary. The occasion seemed to be opportune for the serious consideration of a plan for the peaceful adjustment of international differences, a subject in which the American people have been deeply interested for many years, and a definite project for a permanent inter-national tribunal was included in the in-structions to the delegates of the United

The final act of the conference includes a convention upon the amelioration of the laws and customs of war on land, the adaptation to maritime warfare of the principles of the Geneva convention of 1864, and the extension of judicial methods to international cases. The convention for the pacific settlement of international conflicts embodies the leading features of the American plan, with such modifications as were rendered necessary by the great diversity of views and interests represented by the delegates. The four titles of the convention provide for the continuance of general peace, the exercise of good offices and mediation, the forma-tion of commissions of inquiry, and international arbitration.

The mediation provided for by the convention is purely voluntary and advisory, and is intended to avoid any invasion or limitation of the sovereign rights of the adhering states. The commissions on inquiry proposed consist of delegations to be specifically constituted for particular purposes by means of conventions between the contesting parties, having for their object the clear understanding of international differences before resorting to the use of

force. The provision for arbitration con-templates the formation of a permanent tribunal, before which disputed cases may tribunal, before which disputed cases may be brought for settlement by the mutual consent of the litigants in each separate case. The advantages of such a permanent tribunal over impromptu commissions of arbitration are conceived to be the actual existence of a competent court, epared to administer justice, the greater onomy resulting from a well-devised sysand the accumulated judicial skill experience which such a tribunal would soon possess.

THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

Changes in the Past Year-Medals for Over-Time Troops in Philippines.

Since my last annual message, and in obedience to the acts of congress of April 22 and 26, 1835, the remaining volunteer force enlisted for the Spanish war, consisting of \$4,834 regulars and 110,202 vol-unteers, with over 5000 volunteer officers, has been discharged from the mili-tary service. All of the volunteers in the Philippines, and 1650 of the regulars, werea entitled to be mustered out after the ratification of the trenty of after the ratification of the freaty of peace. They voluntarily remained at the front until their places could be filled by new troops. They were returned home in the order in which they went to Manila, and are now all of them out of the service and in the ranks of citizenship. I recommend that the congress provide a special medal of honor for the volunteers, regulars, sallors and marines on duty in the Philippines, who voluntarily remained in the service after their terms of enlistment had expired.

By the act of March 2 189, congress has authority to increase the regular army to a maximum not exceeding 65,000 enlisted men, and to enlist a force of 25,000 volunteers, to be recruited from the country at large. By virtue of this authority the regular army has been increased to the number of 61,999 enlisted men and 2248 officers, and new volunteer regiments have been organized, aggregating 35,050 enlist-ed men and 1524 officers. Two of these nteer regiments are made up of col ored men, with colored line officers.

The Forces in the Philippines. The new troops to take the places of those returning from the Philippines have been transported to Manila to the number of SSI officers and 25,322 enlisted men of the regular army, and SS4 officers and 15,385 enlisted men of the new volunteer force, while SS4 officers and 16,119 men of nteer force are on the ocean route to Manila. The force now in Ma-nila consists of 905 officers and 30,508 regu-bers, and 504 officers and 15,388 of the volinteers, making an aggregate of 1699 of-ficers and 45,966 men. When the troops now under orders shall reach Manily, the force in the archipelago will comprise Not officers and \$483 men. The muster-out of the great volunteer army organized for the Spanish war and the crea-tion of a new army, the transportation from Manila to San Francisco of those ed to discharge, and the transport tion of the new troops to take their places, has been a work of great magnitude, well and ably done, for which too much credit cannot be given the war department.

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

Extends to Our Insulty Possessions Obliteration of the Deficit. restoring peaceful conditions, orderly rule and civic progress in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and, so far as practicable, in the Philippines, the rehabil tation of the postal service has been an important part of the work. It became necessary to provide mail facilities both for our forces of occurrently and facilities. cupation and for the native population. To meet this requirement has involved a sub-stantial reconstruction. The existing sys-tems were so fragmentsry, defective and inadequate that a new and comprehensive organization had to be created. American trained officials have been assigned to the directing and executive positions, while the natives have been cliefly employed in making up the body of the force. in working out this plan, the merit rule has been rigorously and fa thfully applied. posts of Cuba was given to an expert who had been chief postoffice inspector and assistant postmaster-general, and who united large experience with capacity. For the nastership at Havana, the range of skilled and available nen was scann and the choice fell on one who had been 20 years in the service as deputy post-master and postmaster of a large city. This principle governed and determined the selection of American officials sent not only to Cuba, but to Puerto Nico and the Philines, and they were instructed to apply so far as practicable in the employm of the natives as minor postmasters and clerks. The postal system in Cuba, though remaining under the general guidance of the postmaster-general, was made ex-sentially independent. It was felt that it uld not be a burden on the postal serv ce of the United States, and provision was made that any deficit in the postal rev-

Though Puerto Rico and the Philippines held a different relation to the United States, yet for convenience of administration, the same principle of an autonomous system has been extended to them The development of the service in all of the islands has been rapid and successful. the islands has been rapid and successful. It has moved forward on American lines with free delivery, money-order and registry system, and has given the people mall facilities far greater and more reliable than they have ever before enjoyed. It is thus not only a vital agency of industrial, social and business progress, but an important influence in diffusing a just understanding of the true spirit and character of the American administration.

acter of the American administration. The Domestie Service.

The domestic postal service continues to grow with extraordinary rapidity. expenditures and revenues will each exceed \$100,000,000 during the current year. Fortunately, since the revival of prosperity, the revenues have grown much fast-er than the expenditures, and there is every indication that a short period will wit-ness obliteration of the annual deficit.

THE NAVY.

Necessary Provision Must Be Made for Armor Plate.

The navy has maintained the spirit high efficiency which have always char-acterized that service, and has lost none of the gallantry in heroic action which has signalized its brilliant and glorious The nation has equal pride in its past. early and later achievients. Its habit-ual readiness for every emergency has won the confidence and admiration of the country. The people are interested in the continued preparation and prestige of the navy, and will justify liberal appropriations for its maintenance and improve-ment. The officers have shown peculiar adaptation for the pe formance of new and delicate duties which our recent war

has imposed. I heartily concur in the recommenda-tions for the increase of the navy, as suggested by the secretary. Our future progress and prosperity depend upon our ability to equal, if not to surpass, other nations in the enjargement and advance of science, industry and commerce.

the most powerful sids to the accomplishment of such a result. The attention of congress is directed to the report of the per of patents, in which will be found valuable suggestions and rec-

THE PENSION ROLL.

Urges Modification of the Provision Reinting to Widows. On June 30, 1899, the pension roll of the United States numbered 391,519. These

include the pensioners of the army and navy in all our wars. The number added to the rolls during the year was 40,59L. The number dropped by reason of death, remarriage, minors, by legal limitations, failure to claim within three years, and other causes, was 43,186, and the number of claims disallowed was 167,917. During the year 85,654 pension certificates were issued, of which \$7,977 were for new or original pensions. The amount disbursed for army and navy pensions during the year was \$155,355,662 %6, which was \$1651 46

less than the sum of the appropriations.

The Grand Army of the Republic, at its recent national encampment, held at Philadelphia, has brought to my attention, and to that of congress, the wisdom and jus-tice of a modification of the th'rd section of the act of June 27, 1890, which provides of the act of June 27, 1890, which provides pensions for the widows of officers and enlisted men who served 90 days or more during the war of the rebellion, and were honorably discharged, provided that such widows are without other means of support than their daily labor and were married to the soldier, sailor or marine on account of whose service they claim ion prior to the date of the act. With the approval of the secretary the interior, the commissioner of pens

recommends that, in order to make the actice at all times uniform, and to do justice to the dependent widow, the amount of income allowed, independent of the proceeds of her daily labor, should not be less than \$250 per annum, and he urges that congress shall so amend the act as to permit the pension office grant pensionable status to widows der the terms of the third section of the act of June 27, 1890, whose income, aside from the proceeds of daily labor, is not in excess of \$250 per annum. I believe this to be a simple act of justice, and I

heartily recommend it. The Davies Commission The Dawes commission reports that

gratifying progress has been made in work during the preceding year. The field work of enrollment of four of the nations has been completed.

I recommend that congress, at an early

day, make liberal appropriation for edu-cational purposes in the Indian territory. Twelfth Census

In accordance with the act of congress approved March 3, 1889, the preliminary work in connection with the 12th census is now fully under way. The officers required for the proper administration of the duties imposed have been selected. The provision for securing a proper summeration of the population, as well as to secure evidence of the industrial growth of the nation, is broader and more comprehensive than any similar legislation in the past. The director advises that every edful effort is being made to push this great work to completion in the time Ited by the statute. It is believed that the 12th census will emphasize our remarkable advance in all that pertains to bational progress.

FORESTRY AND AGRICULTURE.

The Reserves and Regulations for Their Maintenance.

On June 30, 1898, there were 30 forest ervations (exclusive of the Afognak forest and fish-culture reserve in Alaska), embracing an estimated area of 40,719,178 seres. During the past year, two of the existing forest reserves, the Trabuco can-yon, California, and Black Hills, South Dakota and Wyoming, have been considerably enlarged; the area of the Mount Rainier reserve, in the state of Washing-ton, has been somewhat reduced, and six additional reserves have been established, namely, the San Francisco Mourtain Ariz ; the Black Mesa, Ariz ; Lake Tahoe, Cal.; Gallatin, Mont.; Glia river, N. M., and Fish Lake, Utah, the total estimated aren of which is 5 625,722 acres. This makes at the present time a total of % forestry reservations, embracing an estimated ar of 46 021,899 acres. This estimated area is the aggregated area within the boundaries of the reserves. The lands actually reserved are, however, only the vacant pub-lic lands therein, and these have been set In order that they may be of the greatest use to the people.

The subject of irrigation, where it is of vital importance to the people, is being carefully studied, steps are being taken to reclaim injured or abandoned lands, and information for the people along those lines is being printed and distributed. Markets are being sought and opened up for surplus farm and factory products in Europe and in Asia,

The outlook for the education of the young farmer through agricultural colleges and exper.ment s ations, with opportunity given to specialize in the de-partment of agriculture, is very promising. The people of Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Philippine islands have been helped by the establishment of experi-ment stations to a more scientific knowledge of the production of coffee, India rubber and other tropical products for which there is a demand in the United

THE PHILIPPINE OFFERTION

Acquisition of the Islands-The Fillpino Insurrection. &

On the 10th of December, 1898, the treaty of peace between the United States and Spain was signed. It provided, among other things, that Spain should cede to the United States the archipelago known as the Philippine islands, that the United States should pay to Spain the sum of \$21. 000,000, and that the civil rights and political status of the native inhabitants of the territories thus ceded to the United States should be determined by the congress. The treaty was ratified by the senate on the 6th of February, 1898, and by the government of Spain on the 19th cf March following. The ratifications were exchanged on the 11th of April, and the treaty publicly proclaimed. On the 24 of March, the congress voted the sum contemplated by the treaty, and the amount was paid over to the Spanish government on the 1st of May. In this manner the Philippines came to the United States. The islands were ceded by the government of Spain, which had been in undisputed possession of them for centuries. They were accepted not merely by our authorized commissioners in Paris, under the direction of the executive, but by the constitutional and well-considered action of the representatives of the people of the United States in both houses of congress.

I had every reason to believe, and I still believe, that this transfer of sovereignty was in accordance with the wishes and the aspirations of the great mass of the Filipino people. From the earliest moment no opportunity was lost of assuring the people of the islands of our ardent desire their welfare and of the intention of this government to do everything possible to advance their interests. In my order of the 19th of May, 1898, the commander of the military expedition dispatched to the Philippines was instructed to declare that we came not to make war on the people of the country, "nor upon any part or faction among them, but to protect them in their homes, in their employments and in their personal and religious rights."
That there should be no doubt as to the paramount authority there, on the I'th of August, it was directed that "there must be no joint occupation with the in-surgents"; that the United States must preserve the peace and protect persons and property within the territory occupied by their military and naval forces; that the insurgents and all others must recognize the military occupation and authority of the United States. As early as December 4, before the cession and in onticipation of that event, the commander in

Mantia was urged to restore peace and

tranquility, and to undertake the estabwhich should afford the fullest security

for life and property.

On the fist of December, after the trenty was signed, the commander of the forces of occupation was instructed "to announce and proclaim, in the most public manner, that we come, not as invaders and con-querors, but as friends to protect the naand in their personal and rights." The same day tives in their homes, in their employments rights." The same day, while ordering General Otis to see that peace should be preserved in Ilo Ilo, he was admonished "It is most important that there should be no conflict with the insurgents. On the first day of January, 1899, general orders resterated that the kindly intentions of this government should in every possible way, be communicated to the

The Philippine Commission. On the 21st of January, I announced my Intention of dispatching to Manila a comon composed of three gentlemen of the highest character and distinction, thoroughly acquainted with the Orient, who, in association with Admiral Dewey Major-General Otis, were instruct to "facilitate the most humane and ef-fective ends and to secure, with the least possible delay, the benefits of a wise and erous protection of life and prosprty to generous protection of life and prosprty to the inhabitanis." These gentlemen were Dr. Jacob Gould Schurman, president of Cornell university; the Hon. Charles D'n-by, for many years minis er to Ch na, and Professor Dean C. Worcester, of the university of Michigan, who had made a most careful study of life in the Phil-topines.

While the treaty of peace was under consideration in the senate, these comm s sioners set out on their mission of good will and liberation. Their character was a sufficient guaranty of the beneficient purwith which they went, even if they had not home the positive instructions of this government which made their errand pre-eminently one of peace and friendship. But before their arrival in Manila, the subster ambition of a few leaders of the Filipinos had created a stuation full of

embarraesments for us and most grievous in its consequences to themselves. The clear and impartial preliminary re-port of the commissioners, which I trans-mit herewith, gives so lucid and compre-hensive a history of the present insurance tionary movement that the story need not be here repeated. It is enough to say that the claim of the rebel leader, that he was promised independence by any officer of the United States in return for his assistance has no foundation in fact, and is categorically denied by the very witnesses who were called to prove it. The most the insurgent leader hoped for when he came back to Manila was the liberation of the islands from the Spanish control, which they had been laboring for years, without success, to throw off.

Outbreak of the Insurrection.

The prompt accomplishment of this work by the American army and navy gave him other ideas and ambitions, and insidious suggestions from various quar-ters perverted the purposes and intentions ters perverted the purposes and intent ons with which he had taken up arms. No sooner had our army captured Manila than the Filipino forces beran to assume an attitude of suspicion and hostility, which the utmost efforts of our officers and troops were unable to disarm or modify. Their kindness and forbearance was taken an a proof of cowardice. The aggression of the Filipinos continually increased, un-til, finally, just before the time set for the nate of the United States to vote upo the treaty, an attack, evident'y prepared in advance, was made all along the American lines, which resulted in a terridestructive and sanguinary repulse of the insurgents.

Ten days later an order of the insurgent government was issued to its adherents who had remained in Manila, of which General Otis justly observes that "for barbarous intent it is unequaled in modbarbarous intent it is unequaled in modern times." It directs that at 8 o'clock on the night of the lith of February, the territorial militis shall come together in the streets of San Pedro, armed with their ho'os, with guns and ammunitien plains and valleys would be the scene of where convenient; that Filipino families on'v shall be respected; that all other individuals, of whatever race they may be, shall be exterminated without any pression, after the extermination of army of occupation, and >dds: Brothers, we must avenge ourselves on the Americans and exterminate them.
that we may take our revenue for the
infam'es and trencheries which they havcommitted upon us. Have no compassion upon them: attack with vigor."

A copy of this fell, by good fortune into the bands of our officers, and they were able to take measures to control the were able to take measures to control the rising, which was actually attempted on the night of February 22, a week later than was originally contemplated. A con-siderable number of armed insurgents en-tered the city by waterways and swamms, and, in concert with confederates inside, attempted to destroy Manila by fire. They were kept in check during the night, and the next day driven out of the city, with

What the Commission Found.

This was the unhappy condition of affairs which confronted our commission on their arrival in Manila, come with the hope and intention of co-operation with Admiral Dewey and Mafor-General Otis in establishing peace and order in the archipelago, and the largest measure of self-government compatible with the true welfare of the people. What they actually found can best be set forth their own words:

"Deplorable as war is, the one in which we are now engaged was unavoidable by us. We were attacked by a bold, adventurous and enthusiastic army. No alternative was left us, except ignominiou retreat. It is not to be conceived of that any American would have sanctioned the surrender of Manila to the insurgents Our obligations to other nations and to the friendly Filipinos and to ourselves and our flag demanded that force should be met with force. Whatever the future of the Philippines may be, there is no course open to us now except the prosecution of the war until the insurgents are reduced to submission. The commission is of the opinion that there has been no time since the destruction of the Spanish squadron by Admiral Dewey when it was possible to withdraw our forces from the islands either with honor to ourselves or with safety to the inhabitants." The course thus clearly indicated has

been unflinchingly pursued. The rebel-lion must be put down. Civil government cannot be thoroughly established until order is restored. With a devotion and gallantry worthy of its most brilliant history, the semy, ably and loyally essisted by the navy has carried on this unwelcome but most righteous campaign with richly deserved success. The noble self-sacrifice with which our soldlers and sallors, whose terms of service had ex-pired, refused to avail themselves of their right to return home as long as they were needed at the front, forms one of the brightest pages in our annals. Although helr operations have been somewhat interrupted and checked by a anny season of unusual violence and duration, they have gained ground steadily in every direction, and now look forward confidently to a speedy completion of their task

The unfavorable circumstances con-nected with an active campaign have not been permitted to interfere with the equally important work of reconstruction. Again I invite your attention to the report of the commissioners for the interesting and encouraging details of the work already accomplished in the establishment of peace and order and the inauguration of self-governing municipal

Civil Government in Negros.

the establishment of a government in the island of Negros, which is deserving of special consideration. This was the first island to accept American sovereignty. Its people unreservedly proclaimed allegiance to the United States, and adopted a constitution looking to the tablishment of a popular government. was impossible to guarantee to the pe ple of Negros that the constitution adopted should be the ultimate form of government. Such a question, under the treaty with Spain and in accordance with our own constitution and mws. come car-

gress. The government actually set up by the inhabitants of Negros eventually proved unsatisfactory to the natives them-selves. A new system was put into force by order of the major-general command-ing the department, of which the fol-lowing are the most important elements: It was ordered that the government of the island of Negros should consist of a military governor, appointed by the United States military governor of the Philippines, and a civil governor and an advisory council elected by the people. The military governor was authorized to ap-point secretaries of the treasury, interior,

agriculture, public instruction an attor-ney-general and an auditor. The seat of government was fixed at Bacolor. The military governor exercises the supreme executive power. He is to see that the laws are executed, appoint to offices and fill all vacancies in office not otherwise. provided for, and may, with the approval provided for, and may, with the approval of the military governor of the Philippines, remove any officer from office. The civil governor advises the military governor on all public and civil questions, and presides over the advisory council. He, in general, performs the duties which are performed by secretaries of state in our own system of government. The advisory council consists of eight members elected by the people within territorial limits, which are defined in the order of limits, which are defined in the order of

the commanding general. Agreement With Sultan of Sulus. The authorities of the Sulu islands have accepted the succession of the United States to the rights of Spain, and our flag fouts over that territory. On the 10th of August, 1859, Brigadier-General Bates, United States volunteers, negotiated an agreement with the sultan and his principal chiefs, which I transmit herewith.

Rebellion Nearly Ended.

I communicate these facts to the congress for its information and action. Everything indicates that with the speedy suppression of the Tagal rebellion, life in the archipelago will soon assume its ord-nary course under the protection of our sovereignty, and the people of these fa-vored islands will enjoy a prosperity and a freedom which they have never before known. Already hundreds of schools are open and filled with children. Religious freedom is sacredly assured and enjoyed, and the courts are dispensing justice. Business is beginning to circulate in its accustomed channels. Manila, whose in-habitants were fleeling to the country a few months ago, is now a populous and thriving mart of commerce. The earnest and unremitting endeavors of the com-mission and the admiral and major-genresidual and the scimiral and major-gen-eral commanding the department of the Pacific, to assure the people of the benefi-cent intentions of this government have had their legitimate effect in convincing the great mass of them that peace and safety and prosperity and stable govern-ment can only be found in a loyal acceptance of the authority of the United States.

The Duty of Congress The future government of the Philip pines rests with the congress of the Unit-ed States. Few graver responsibilities have ever been confided to us. If we accept them in a spirit worthy of our race and traditions, great opportunity comes with them. The islands lie under the shelter of our flag. They are ours by every title of law and equity. They cannot be abandoned. If we desert them we endless strife and bloodshed. The advent of Dewey's feet in Minila bay, instead of below, as we hope, the dawn of a new day of freedom and progress, would have been the beginning of an era of misery and violence werse than any which has darkned their unhappy past.

It does not seem desirable that I should recommend at this time a specific final form of government for these islands. When peace shall be restored it will be the duty of congress to construct a plan of government which shall establish and maintain freedom and order and peace in the Philippines. The insurrection is rtill existing and when it terminates, further information will be required as to the actual condition of affairs before inaugurating a permanent scheme of civil government.

The full report of the commission, now in preparation, will contain information and suggestions which will be of value to ongress, and which I will transmit as oon as it is completed. As long as the beurrection continues, the military arm must necessarily be supreme,

THE HAWAHAN ISLANDS.

Secessity of a Change in the Laws for Their Government.

Some embarrassment in administration has occurred by reason of the peculiar status which the Hawalian Islands at present occupy under the joint resolution of annexation, approved July 7, 1888. While by that resolution the republic of Hawaii, as an independent nation, was extinguished, its separate sovereignty de-stroyed and its property and possessions vested in the United States, yet a comete establishment for i's government under our system was not effected. While the municipal laws of the islands, not en-acted for the fulfillment of treatles and not inconsistent with the joint resolution or contrary to the constitution of United States or any of its freaties, re-main in force, yet these laws relate only to the social and internal affairs of the island, and do not touch any subjects of importance which are of a broader national character.

Commissioners' Report. By the resolution of annexation the

president was directed to appoint five commissioners to recommend to congress such legislation concerning the Islands as they should deem necessary or proper. The commissioners were duly appointed, and, after a careful investigation and study of the system of laws and government prevailing in the islands and the conditions existing there, they prepared a bill to provide a government under the title of "The Territory of Hawail." The The report of the commission, with the bill which they prepared was transmitted by me to congress on December 6, 1888, but the bill still awaits final action. The people of these islands are entitled to the benefits and privileges of our legislation, but in the absence of any act of congress providing for federal courts in the islands, and for a procedure by which apwrits of error and other judicial proceedings necessary for the enforcment of civil rights may be prosecuted, they are powerless to secure their enforcement by the Judgment of the courts of the United States.

It is manifoldly important, therefore that an act should be passed as spe as possible erecting these islands into a judicial district, providing for the appointment of a judge and other proper officers and methods of procedure in appel-late proceedings, and that the government of this newly acquired territory under the federal constitution shall be fully de-A notable beginning has been made in fined and provided for.

LAWS FOR ALASKA

Necessity for Immediate Logislative Action.

A necessity for immediate legislative ac-A necessity for immediate legislative ac-tion exists in the territory of Alaska. Substantially the only law providing a civil government for this territory is the act of May 17, 1884. This is meager in its provisions and is fitted only for the ad-min stration of affalis in a country sparse. min stration of affairs in a country sparaely inhabited by civilized people and unimportant in frade and production, as was
Alaska at the time this act was passed.
The increase in population by immigration during the past few years, consequent
upon the discovery of gold, has produced
such a condition as calls for more ample
facilities for local self-government and
more numerous conveniences of civil and more numerous conveniences of civil and judical administration.

THE PUERTO RICANS.

Hardships Worked by the Laws at

I recommend that legislation to the Rico. The time is ripe for the adopt of a temporary form of government this island, and many suggestions in with reference to Alaska are applicawith reference to Alaska are applicable also to Puerto Rico. The system of civil jurisprudence now adopted by the people of this island is described by competent lawyers who are familiar with it, as thoroughly modern and scientific, so far as it relates to matters of internal business, trade, production and social and acceptance of the production and social and private rights in general. The cith which probably require very little or no change. So that with relation to matters of local concern and private rights, it is not probable that much, if any, legislation not probable that much, if any, legislation is desirable, but with reference to public administration and the relations of the islands to the federal government these are many matters which are of pr urgency.

Her Principal Markets Closed. It must be borne in mind that since the cession Puerto Rico has been denied the principal market she had lung joyed, and our tariff has been contin der Spanish sovereignty. The marke a store control of Spanish sovereignty. The marke a store cept upon terms to which the commerce cept upon terms to which the commerce of all nations is subjected. The island of Cuba, which used to buy her ceille and tobacco without customs dutied from no poses the same duties upon the product as from any other country entering her ports. She has, therefore, lost his free intercourse with Spain and Cuba, without any compensation has all the manner. any compensating benefits in the market. Her coffee was little known and not in use by our people, and therefore, there was no demand here for this, one of he was no demand here for this, one of net chief products. The markets of the United States should be opened up to her products. Our plain duty is to abolish all customs tariffs between the United States and Puerto Rico and give her products free access to our markets.

As a result of the hurricane which the core Puerto Rico and Puerto Rico and Puerto Rico and products free access to our markets.

As a result of the hurricane which swept over Puerto Rico on the 18th of August, 1836, over 100 000 people were reduced to absolute destitution, without homes, and deprived of the necessaries of life. To the appeal of the war department the people of the United States made prompt and generous response. In addition to the private charity of our people, the war department has expended for the relief of the distressed 1302,342 63, which does not include the cost of transportation.

OTHER MATTERS DISCUSSED.

Mob Law Denounced - Lynchis Must Not Be Tolerated.

The love of law and sense of obedie and submission to the lawfully consti-tuted tr.bunais are imbedded in the hearts of our people, and any viola-tion of these sentiments and disregard of their obligations justly arouses public condemnation. The guaranties of life, inery and of civil rights should be faithfully upheid; the right of trial by jury respected and defended. The rule of the courts should assure the public of the prompt trial of these charged with erim nal offerse, and upon conviction the punishment should be commensurate with the enormity of the crime. Those who in disregard of law and public peace, unwhiling to await the tadgment of curt and jury, consultate themselves judges and executioners should not escape the severest penalties of their crimes.

Extending the Classified Service. The executive order of May 5, 1896, ex-tending the limits of the classified service, brought within the operation of the civil service law and rules nearly all of the executive civil service not previously classified. Some of the inclusions wurn found wholly ling est and unsuited to the work of the several departments. The application of the rules to many of the places so included was found to result in friction and embarrassment. After long and very th rough consideration, it became evident to the heads of the departthe executive civil service not previously ments responsible for their efficiency that in order to remove these difficulties and promote an efficient and harmonious administration, certain amendments were necessary. These amendments were promulgated by me in executive order dated May 20 1500. May 29, 1558.

Anniversary of Washington's Beath, Analysers of Washington Analysers of the one hundredth anniversary of the death of Washington. For a hundred years the republic has had the procless advantage of the lofty standard of character and conduct which be bequeathed to the American people. It is an inhediant which time, insead of wasting, continually increases and enriches. We may have here for in the years to come the which time; insead of wasting, costing ally increases and enriches. We may justly hope that in the yours to come the benignant influence of the father of his country may be even more potent for go d than in the century which is drawing to a close. I have been gird to learn that in many parts of the country the people will fittingly observe this historic appropriates.

Responsibilities of Congress.

Presented to this congress are great opsponsibilities. The power confided to us increases the weight of our obligations to the people, and we must be poloundly sensitive of them as we contempose the new and grave problems which confront us. Alming only at the public good, we cannot err. A right interpretation of the people's will and of duty cannot fall to insure wise measures for the welfare of the islands which have come under the authority of the United States, and Inura to the common interest and lasting honor of our country.

Never has this nation had more abun-

dant cause than during the past year for thankfulness to God for manif ld blessing and mercles for which we make reverent acknowledgment.

WILLIAM M'KINLRY

Can't Miss the Place. Stranger-Where does that new den-

tist have his office? Policeman-You mean the one who pulls teeth without pain? "Yes."

"Go right around the corner. You will have no trouble finding his office, You can hear his patients yell half a block away."-Ohio State Journal.

Circumstances Alter Cases.

"I notice," says Uncle Gabe, "dat de man dat sings "I would not live alway' de loudes' on Sunday am gin'ally de one dat gits to de platform fust when de train runs off de track."-N. Y. World