









Be Sure Have You Ever WELL! WET! WET! HAVE YOU SEEN OUR ICELAND BEAR SETS, Ladies Misses CLOAKS! IN OUR CHILDREN'S FUR SETS? SUCH USEFUL GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS! Plush Wraps. Plush Sacques, 4 Years TO- 18 Years SIZES. Celluloid, Hand Painted, Glove and Hdkfs. Cases. PERFUMES of the Nicest Kind! Thermometers, Calendars, Shaving Cases, WORK BOXES and Bags! Time and space fail us to enumerate all the PRETTY THINGS you should see before making your CHRISTMAS PURCHASES. H. A. STARRETT, GEO. W. BURKETT, Opposite National Bank, Belfast, Me. HELLO! EVERYBODY! Will soon be Here. H. J. LOCKE Ladies and Gent's Vest Chains, in Gold and Plate. FINGER RINGS of every style. Pins & Ear Rings, Sleeve Buttons & Studs, in Gold & Plate. Silver Plated Knives, Forks, Spoons, Fruit and Cake Baskets, Bon-Bons, Napkin Rings, and a large variety of Fancy Goods Suitable for the Holidays. Call and save a penny when you are buying Christmas presents. Your patronage is solicited. R. J. LOCKE, 65 Main Street. 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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Benefits to Be Derived from the Pan-American Congress.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER NATIONS

The Rights of Naturalized Citizens.—The Tariff Law.—Treatment of the Indian.—The Colored People.—Recommendations.

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

There are few transactions in the administration of the government that are even temporarily held in the confidence of the public business. Every step taken is under the observation of an intelligent and watchful people. The state of the Union is known from day to day, and suggestions as to needed legislation find an earlier voice than that which speaks in the annual communications of the president to congress.

Goodwill and cordiality have characterized our relations and correspondence with other governments, and the year just closed leaves few international questions of importance remaining undisturbed. No obstacle is believed to exist that can long postpone the consideration and adjustment of the still pending questions upon satisfactory and honorable terms. The dealings of this government with other states have been and should always be marked by frankness and sincerity free from intrigue. This course has borne rich fruit in the past, and it is our duty as a nation to preserve the heritage of good repute which a century of right dealing with foreign governments has secured to us.

The Pan-American Conference.

It is a matter of high significance and no less of gratification that the first year of the second century of our constitutional existence finds us honored guests within our borders by representatives of all the independent states of North and South America met together in earnest conference touching the best method of perpetuating and expanding the relations of mutual interest and friendship existing among them. That the opportunity thus afforded for promoting closer international relations and the increased prosperity of the states represented will be used for the mutual good of all I cannot permit myself to doubt. Other people will await with interest and confidence the results to flow from so auspicious a meeting of allied and, in large part, identical interests.

The recommendations of this international conference of enlightened statesmen will doubtless have the considerate attention of congress and its cooperation in the removal of unnecessary barriers to beneficial intercourse between the nations of America. But, while the commercial interests which it is hoped will follow this conference are worthy of pursuit and of the great interest they have excited, it is believed that the crowning benefit will be found in the better securities which may be devised for the maintenance of peace among all American nations, and the settlement of all controversies by methods that a Christian civilization can approve. While viewing with interest our national resources and products, the delegates will, I am sure, find a higher satisfaction in the evidence of unselfish friendship which everywhere attend their intercourse with our people.

The Marine Conference.

Another international conference, having great possibilities for good, has lately assembled, and is now in session in this capital. An invitation was extended by the government, under the act of congress of July 9, 1888, to all maritime nations to send delegates to confer touching the revision and amendment of the rules and regulations governing vessels at sea and to adopt a uniform system of marine signals. The response to this invitation has been very general and very cordial. Delegates from twenty-six nations are present in the conference, and they have entered upon their useful work with great zeal and with an evident appreciation of its importance. So far as the agreement to be reached may require legislation to give it effect the cooperation of congress is evidently relied upon. It is an interesting, if not indeed an unprecedented, fact that the two international conferences have brought together the accredited representatives of thirty-three nations. Bolivia, Ecuador and Honduras are now represented by resident envoys of the plenipotentiary grade. All the states of the American system now maintain diplomatic representation at this capital.

In this connection may be noted all the nations of the western hemisphere with one exception. Send to Washington envoys extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary being the highest grade accredited to this government. The United States, on the contrary, sends envoys of lower grade to some of our sister republics. Our representative in Paraguay and Uruguay is a minister resident, while to Bolivia we send a minister resident and consular general, in view of the importance of our relations with the states.

Our Relations with China

have the attentive consideration, their magnitude and interest demand. The failure of the treaty negotiated under the administration of my predecessor, for the further, and more complete restriction of Chinese labor immigration, and with it the legislation of the last session of Congress dependent thereon, leaves some questions open which congress should now approach in that wise and just spirit which should characterize the relations of two great and friendly powers. While our supreme interests demand the exclusion of a laboring element which experience has shown to be incompatible with our social life, all steps to compass this imperative need should be accompanied with the recognition of the claims of these strangers now so fully among us to humane and just treatment. The accession of the young Emperor of China marks an era of progress and prosperity for the great country over which he is called to rule.

The Samoan Treaty.

The recent state of affairs in respect to the Samoan islands is encouraging. The conference which was held in this city in the summer of 1887, between the representatives of the United States, Germany and Great Britain having been adjourned because of the persistent divergence of views which was developed in its deliberations, the subsequent course of events in the islands gave rise to questions of a serious character. On the 4th of February last the German minister at this capital, in behalf of his government, proposed a resumption of the conference at Berlin. This proposition was accepted, as congress in February last was informed.

Presently, the German minister, thus reached commissioners were appointed by the navy and with the advice and consent of the senate, who proceeded to Berlin, where the conference was renewed. The deliberations extended through several weeks and resulted in the conclusion of a treaty which will be submitted to the senate for its approval. I trust that the efforts which have been made to effect.

Our Relations with England.

The questions which have arisen during the past few years between Great Britain and the United States are in abeyance or in course of amicable adjustment.

I recommend that provision be made by an international agreement for visibly marking the water boundary between the United States and Canada in the narrow channels that join the great lakes. The conventional

line therein traced by the northwestern boundary survey, years ago, is not in all cases readily ascertainable for the settlement of jurisdictional questions.

A just and acceptable enlargement of the line of reference for which extradition may be claimed and granted is also desirable between this country and Great Britain. The territory of neither should become a secure harbor for the evil doers of the other, through any available short coming in this regard. A new treaty on this subject between the two powers has been recently negotiated, and will soon be laid before the senate.

The importance of the commerce of Cuba and Porto Rico with the United States, their nearest and principal market, justifies the expectation that the existing relations

May be Beneficially Extended.

The impediments resulting from varying dues on navigation and from the vexatious treatment of our vessels on merely technical grounds of complaint, in West Indian ports, should be removed.

The progress toward an adjustment of pending claims between the United States and Spain is not as rapid as could be desired.

With Germany the most cordial relations continue. The question arising from the return to the empire of Germans naturalized in this country are considered and disposed of in a temperate spirit to the

Entire Satisfaction of Both Governments.

It is a source of great satisfaction that the internal disturbances in the republic of Hayti are at last happily ended, and that an apparently stable government has been constituted. It has been duly recognized by the United States.

A mixed commission is now in session in this capital for the settlement of long standing claims against the republic of Venezuela, and it is hoped that a satisfactory conclusion will be speedily reached. This government has not hesitated to express its earnest desire that the boundary dispute now pending between Great Britain and our country be decided amicably, in strict accordance with the historic title of the country.

The advancement of the empire of Japan has been evidenced by the recent promulgation of a new constitution containing valuable guarantees of liberty and providing for a responsible ministry to conduct the government.

It is earnestly recommended that our judicial rights and processes in Corea be established on a firm basis by providing the machinery necessary to carry out treaty stipulations in that regard.

The readiness of the Persian government

contributes to be shown by us.

Generous Treatment of Americans

engaged in missionary labors, and by the cordial disposition of the shah to encourage the enterprise of our citizens in the development of Persian resources.

A discussion is in progress touching the jurisdictional rights of the United States in Turkey. An earnest effort will be made to secure rights to the satisfaction of both governments.

The Recent Revolution in Brazil

is favor of the establishment of a republican form of government is an object of great interest to the United States. Our minister at Rio de Janeiro was at once instructed to maintain friendly diplomatic relations with the provisional government, and the Brazilian representatives at this capital were instructed by the provisional government to maintain their friendly interest. Our friendly interest with Brazil has, therefore, suffered no interruption. Our minister has been further instructed to extend on the part of this government a formal and cordial recognition of the new republic so soon as the majority of the republic of Brazil shall have signified their consent to its establishment and maintenance.

Within Our Own Borders

A general condition of prosperity prevails. The harvest of last summer was exceptionally abundant, and the trade conditions seem to promise a successful season to the merchant and the manufacturer and general employment to our workmen. The report of the secretary of the treasury for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1889, has been prepared, and will be presented to congress. It presents with clearness the fiscal operations of the government, and I avail myself of it to obtain some facts for use here. The aggregate receipts from all sources for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1889, were \$258,825,741.69; from internal revenue, \$139,881,533.32; from miscellaneous sources, \$82,335,802.21. The ordinary expenditures for the same period were \$281,006,635.60 and the total expenditures, including the sinking fund, were \$284,294,425.75. The excess of receipts over expenditures was \$74,179,159.59. For the current fiscal year the total revenues, actual and estimated, are \$359,000,000, and the ordinary expenditures actual and estimated, are \$286,000,000, making the sinking fund total expenditure of \$286,000,000, leaving an estimated surplus of \$73,000,000.

During the year there was applied to the purchase of bonds in addition to those for the sinking fund \$90,554,158.25, and during the first quarter of the current year the sum of \$57,828,632.75, all of which were applied to the sinking fund. The revenue for the fiscal year ending June, 1891, are estimated by the treasury department at \$500,000,000, and the expenditures for the same period, including the sinking fund, \$244,439,377.70. This leaves an estimated surplus of \$255,560,622.30 which is more likely to be increased than reduced when the actual transactions are within it.

The existence of so large an actual and anticipated surplus should have an

Immediate Attention of Congress,

with a view to reducing the receipts of the treasury to the needs of the government, as closely as may be. The collection of moneys not needed for public uses imposes unnecessary burden upon our people, and the presence of so large a surplus in the public vaults is a disturbing element in the conduct of private business. It has called into use expedients for putting it into circulation of very questionable propriety. We should not expect our bonds beyond the requirements of the sinking fund, but any unappropriated surplus in the treasury should be so used, as there is no other lawful way of returning the money to circulation, the plan realized by the government offers a substantial advantage. The loaning of public funds to the banks without interest upon the security of government bonds I regard as an unauthorized and dangerous expedient. It results in a temporary and unnatural increase of the banking capital of favored localities, and compels a cautious and gradual recall of the deposits to avoid injury to the commercial interests. It is not to be expected that the banks having these deposits will sell their bonds to the treasury so long as the present highly beneficial arrangement is continued. They now practically get interest both upon the bonds and their proceeds. No further use should be made of this method of aggregating the surplus into circulation, and the deposits now outstanding should be gradually withdrawn and applied to the purchase of bonds. It is estimated that such a use can be made of the existing surplus, and for some time to come if and casual surplus that may exist after congress has taken the necessary steps for a reduction of the revenue. Such legislation should be promptly but very considerably exact.

The Preparations of a new

Schedule of Customs Duties

is a matter of great delicacy because of its direct effect upon the business of the country and of great difficulty by reason of the wide divergence of opinion as to the objects that may properly be promoted by such legislation. Such disturbance of business may, perhaps, result from a tariff act that is subject by congress, but this temporary effect will be reduced to the minimum by prompt action and by the assurance which the country already enjoys that any necessary changes will be so made as not to impair the just and reasonable protection of the interests of the country. The equalities of the law should be adjusted, but the protective principle should be maintained and applied to the products of our farms

as well as of our shops. These duties necessarily have relation to other things besides the public revenues. We cannot limit their effects by fixing our eyes on the public treasury alone.

They have a direct relation to home production, to work, to wages, and to the commercial independence of our country, and the wise and patriotic legislation should enlarge the fold of his version to include all these.

The necessary reduction in our public revenues can, I am sure, be made without making the smaller burden more onerous than the larger by reason of the disabilities and limitations which the process of reduction puts upon both capital and labor.

The Free List

can very safely be extended by placing therein articles that do not offer injurious competition to such domestic products as our home labor can supply. The removal of the internal tax upon tobacco would remove an important agricultural product from a burden which was far more onerous than our revenue from customs duties was insufficient for the public needs.

A table presented by the secretary of the treasury, showing the amount of money of all kinds in circulation each year from 1878 to the present time is of interest. It appears that the amount of national bank notes in circulation has decreased during that period \$14,100,724, of which \$87,592,220 is chargeable to the last year.

The Withdrawal of Bank Circulation

will necessarily continue under existing conditions. It is probable that the adoption of the suggestions made by the comptroller of the currency, viz., that the minimum deposit of bonds for the establishment of banks be reduced, and that an issue of notes to the par value of the bonds be allowed, would help to maintain the bank circulation. But, while this withdrawal of bonds has been going on, there has been a large increase in the amount of gold and silver coin in circulation, and in the issue of gold and silver certificates.

The total amount of money of all kinds in circulation on March 1, 1878, was \$80,733,807, while on Oct. 1, 1889, the total was \$1,405,018,000. There was an increase of \$29,417,552 in gold coin of \$57,554,100 in standard silver dollars, of \$12,311,240 in gold certificates, of \$2,702,107 in silver certificates, and of \$12,653,281 in United States notes, making a total of \$124,054,400. There was during the same period a decrease of \$14,100,724 in bank circulation, and of \$612,684 in subsidiary coin.

The net increase was \$769,224,136. The circulation per capita has increased about \$1.40, the time covered by the bond referred to.

The total amount of silver dollars was on Nov. 1, 1889, \$443,337,000, of which \$283,329,521 were in the treasury vaults.

The law requiring the purchase by the treasury of \$20,000,000 worth of silver bullion each month to be coined into silver dollars of four hundred and twenty-five grains each, has been observed by the department, but under the present secretary no other of his predecessors has deemed it safe to exercise the discretion given by law to increase the monthly purchase to \$4,000,000.

The price of silver in the market (Feb. 28, 1889) the price of silver in the market was \$1.44 per ounce, making the bullion value of the dollar 93 cents. Since that time the price has fallen as low as 91.5 cents per ounce, reducing the bullion value of the dollar to 90 cents. Within the last few months the market price has advanced and on the 1st day of November last the bullion value of the dollar was 92 cents.

I think it clear that we should make the purchase of silver at the present ratio, for we must expect that the difference in the bullion value of the dollar and silver dollars will be taken account of in commercial transactions, and I fear the same result would follow any considerable increase of the present rate of exchange. Such a result would be disastrous to our financial management and disastrous to all business interests.

We should not tread the dangerous verge of such a peril. And, indeed, nothing more harmful could happen to the silver interests. Any safe legislation upon this subject must secure the equality of the two coins in their commercial value. I have been able to advocate the use of silver in our currency. We are large producers of that metal and should not discredit it. So the plan which will be presented by the secretary of the treasury for the issuance of notes or certificates for the deposit of silver bullion at a fixed value I have been able to give only a hasty examination, owing to the press of other matters, and to the fact that it has been so recently formulated. The details of such a plan require careful consideration, but the general plan suggested by him seems to satisfy the purpose.

To define the use of silver in connection with our currency and at the same time to obviate the danger of which I have spoken. At a later day I may communicate further with congress upon this subject. The enforcement of

The Chinese Exclusion Act

has been found to be very difficult on the northwest coast. Chinese landing at that point and passing on to the interior, owing to the impossibility, with the force at the command of the customs officers, of guarding so long an inland line. The secretary of the treasury has authorized the employment of additional officers, who will be assigned to this duty, and every effort will be made to prevent the Chinese from landing. The Chinese are no longer to be allowed to land, but they are to be kept from the coast by the force of our law, and when these persons in fraud of our law cross into our territory and are apprehended our officers do not know what to do with them as the Dominion authorities will not suffer them to be sent back without a second passage of the law. An effort will be made to reach an understanding that will remove the difficulty.

The proclamation required by section 3 of the act of March 2, 1889.

Relating to the Killing of Seals

and other fur-bearing animals was issued by me on the 27th day of March, and a revenue vessel was dispatched to enforce the laws and protect the interests of the United States.

The establishment of a refuge station at Point Barrow, as directed by congress, was successfully accomplished.

Our Coast Defense.

Judged by modern standards, we are practically without coast defenses. Many of the structures we have would, however, rather than diminish the peril of their garrisons if subjected to the fire of improved guns; and very few are so located as to give full effect to the greater range of such guns as we are now making for coast defense use.

The Military.

I approve the suggestion of the secretary of war, that provision be made for employing companies of the national guard in our coast defense. It is a desirable thing for their training in the use of heavy guns. His suggestion that an increase of the artillery force of the army is desirable, is also in this connection commended to the consideration of congress.

Rivers and Harbors.

The improvement of our important rivers and harbors should be promoted by the necessary appropriation. Care should be taken that the work is not done for the protection of work not of public and general advantage, and that the relative usefulness of work of that class is not overlooked.

So far as this work can be said to be completed, I do not doubt that the end would be reached. The work has been done in a few separate works were undertaken at the same time, and those selected for the greater general interest were more rapidly pushed to completion. A work once considerably begun should not be subjected to the force of a department which interrupted, or insufficient appropriations necessarily occasion.

Protection of Judges.

The assault made by David S. Terry upon the person of Justice Field of the supreme court of the United States, at Lathrop, Cal., in August last, and the killing of the assassin by a deputy United States marshal who had been deputed to accompany Justice Field and to protect him from anticipated violence at the hands of Terry in connection

with the legal proceedings which followed, suggest questions which, in my judgment, are worthy of the attention of congress. I recommend that definite provision be made by law, not only for the protection of federal officers, but for a full trial and success in United States courts, and recommending such legislation. I do not recommend either the general adequacy of the provision made by the state, and for the protection of all citizens, or the general good disposition of such laws for the protection of officers of the United States.

Higher Salaries for Judges.

The salaries of the judges of the district courts in many of the districts are, in my judgment, inadequate. I recommend that all such salaries now below \$5000 per annum be increased to that sum. It is a well known fact that the amount of labor performed by these judges is very unequal, but as they cannot properly engage in other pursuits to supplement their incomes, the salary should be such in all cases as to provide an independent and comfortable support.

Trusts.

Earnest attention should be given by congress to a consideration of the question how far the restraint of these combinations of capital commonly called "trusts," is matter of federal jurisdiction. When organized, as they often are, to crush out all healthy competition and to monopolize the production or sale of an article of commerce and general necessity, they are dangerous conspiracies against the public good, and should be made subject to the force of prohibitory and even penal legislation.

International Copyright.

The subject of an international copyright has been frequently commended to the attention of congress by my predecessors. The enactment of such a law would be eminently wise and just.

Naturalization.

Our naturalization laws should be so revised as to make the inquiry into the moral character and good disposition toward our government of the persons applying for citizenship more thorough. This can only be done by taking fuller account of the examination of the applicant for hearing such examinations, and by requiring the presence of someone who shall represent the government in the inquiry. These who are the avowed enemies of social order and who come to our shores to swell the numbers of the idle and the vicious, and who are in no way connected with the life of the nation, should not only be denied citizenship, but a ban should be placed upon them.

National Bankrupt Law.

The enactment of a national bankrupt law of the character of a national bankrupt law is a subject of great importance, and it is desirable that it should be simple in its methods and in its administration.

The Postal Service.

The report of the postmaster general not only exhibits the operations of the department for the last fiscal year, but contains many valuable suggestions for the improvement and extension of the service which are commended to your attention. No other branch of the government has so close a contract with the daily life of the people, almost every one uses the service, and every hour gained in the transmission of the great volume of mail has an actual and possible value that only those engaged in trade can understand.

The saving of one day in the transmission of the mails between New York and San Francisco, which has recently been accomplished, is a matter of great importance. The plan suggested by the postmaster general for the improvement of the service, and a rating of the efficiency of the postmasters would, I have no doubt, greatly improve the service.

The Samoan Disaster.

An appalling calamity befell three of our naval vessels on duty in the Samoan islands on the 28th of August last, in which, involving the loss of four officers and forty-seven men, and two vessels, the Trenton, the Vandalia, and the Thetis, and a third, the Nassau, three vessels, the German navy also in the harbor shared with our ships the loss of the crew and the vessel even more heavily.

With mourning the brave officers and men who were slain with high resolve, greater than those of battle, it is most gratifying to find that the spirit of the American navy for comradeship, courage and general bravery has been so nobly shown in the harbor of Apia.

Our Road System.

The report of the secretary of the interior exhibits the progress of the government with the Indian tribes. Substantial progress has been made in the establishment of a chain of roads and the improvement of land-tailout roads. It is to be regretted that the policy of building up the Indian nation and of reducing the number of individuals who do not appear to be in our civilization has not been carried out in our legislation.

Large reservations held in common with the maintenance of the authority of chiefs and head men, have deprived the individual of every incentive to the exercise of their own industry and initiative. Our twenty stipulations should be observed with fidelity, and our legislation should be highly considerate of the best interests of an ignorant and helpless people. The reservations are now generally held by the white population. We can no longer push the Indian back into wilderness, and it remains only, by every suitable agency, to push him upward into the estate of a self-supporting and responsible citizen. For the time, the best step is to locate him upon a farm, and let the child play like a white child.

School attendance should be promoted by every legal agency, and these things should be accomplished. The national school for Indians have been very successful, and should be so organized, and as far as possible, should be so organized as to facilitate the transfer of the students to the states or territories in which they are located when the Indians in a neighborhood have accepted citizenship and have become otherwise fitted for such a transfer.

On the 16th day of April last, happened Ben Charles, formerly Chief, then William Warner of Missouri and Maj. Gen. George Crook of the United States army, commissioners under the last named law. They were, however, authorized and directed, first, to submit to the Indians the definite proposition made to them by the act just mentioned, and only in the event of a failure to secure the assent of the requisite number to that proposition to open negotiations for modified terms under the other act.

The work of the commission was prolonged and arduous, but the assent of the requisite was, it is understood, finally obtained to the proposition made by congress, though the report of the commission has not yet been submitted. In view of these facts, I shall not, as at present advised, deem it necessary to submit the argument to congress for ratification, but it will in due course be submitted for information. This argument relates to the United States about 9,000,000 acres of land.

A second conference between the commission and the Cherokee was begun Nov. 6, but no result has been obtained, nor is it believed that a conclusion can be immediately expected. The matter now occupies the land for grazing purposes is clearly one of the agencies responsible for the obstruction of our negotiations with the Cherokees. The large body of agricultural lands constituting what is known as the "Cherokee Outlet" is held for grazing, and for the advantage of a few against the public interests and the best advantage of the Indians themselves.

The traders contain rights in these lands. These will not be used oppressively, but it cannot be allowed that those who, by suffering except these lands shall interfere to defeat the wise and beneficent purposes of the government. I cannot but believe that the advantageous character of the offer made by the United States to the Cherokee nation for a full release of these lands as compared with other suggestions now made to them, will yet obtain for it a favorable consideration.

Under the agreement made between the United States and the Muscogee (or Creek)

nation of Indians on the 19th day of January, 1889.

An Absolute Title Was Secured

by the United States to about three and a half millions of acres of land. Section 2 of the general Indian appropriation act approved March 2, 1889, made provision for the purchase by the United States from the Seminole tribe of a certain portion of their lands.

The delegates of the Seminole nation having first evidenced to their power to act in that behalf delivered a proper release and conveyance to the United States of all the lands mentioned in the act which was accepted by me and certified to by me in compliance with the statute. By the terms of the act referred to all the lands mentioned were declared to be a part of the public domain and open to settlement.

Oklahoma.

I did, on the 23d day of March last, issue a proclamation declaring that the lands therein described would be open to settlement under the provisions of the law on the 22d day of April following at 12 o'clock noon. Two land districts had been established and the offices were open for the transaction of business when the appointed time arrived. It is much to the credit of the settlers that they very generally observed the limitation as to the time when they might enter the territory. Care will be taken that those who entered in violation of the law do not secure the advantage they unfairly sought. There was a good deal of apprehension that the strife for locations would result in much violence and bloodshed, but, happily, these anticipations were not realized. It is estimated that there are now in the territory about 60,000 people, and several considerable towns have sprung up, for which temporary municipal governments have been organized. Guthrie is said to have now a population of almost 8000. Eleven schools and nine churches have been established, and three daily and five weekly newspapers are published in this city, whose charter and ordinances have only the sanction of the voluntary acquiescence of the people from day to day.

Oklahoma City has a population of about 5000, and is proportionately as well provided as Guthrie with churches, schools and newspapers. Other towns and villages having populations from one hundred to a thousand are scattered over the territory. In order to secure the peace of this new community, in the absence of civil government I directed Gen. Meritt to command the department of the Missouri to act in conjunction with the marshals of the United States to preserve the peace, and upon their suggestion to use the troops to aid them in executing warrants and in quelling any riots or breaches of the peace that might occur. It was the object to use his influence to promote good order and to avoid any conflicts between or with the settlers. Believing that the introduction and sale of liquors where no legal restraint or regulations existed, would endanger the public peace, and in view of the fact that such liquor must first be introduced into the Indian reservation before reaching the white settlement, I further directed the general commanding to enforce the laws relating to the introduction of spirituous liquors into the Indian country. The presence of the troops has given a sense of security to the well-to-do citizens and has tended to restrain the lawless.

The American genius for self-government has been well illustrated in Oklahoma, but it is neither safe nor wise to let these people longer to the exorbitant claims they have temporarily secured them.

Administration of Law in Alaska.

Provision should be made for the acquisition of title to town lots in the territory established in Alaska for locating town sites and for the establishment of municipal governments. Only the mining laws have been extended to that territory, and no other form of title to lands can be obtained. The general land laws were first extended to Alaska by the act of March 3, 1887, and since that time the disposition of agricultural lands and it is doubtful if their operation in Alaska would be beneficial.

The Public Lands.

In the administration of the land laws the policy of facilitating in every proper way the adjustment of the honest claims of individual settlers upon the public lands has been pursued. The number of pending cases had, during the preceding administration, greatly increased under the operation of orders for a time suspending final action in a large part of the cases originating in the west and northwest and by the subsequent use of unusual methods of examination. Only those who are familiar with the conditions under which our agricultural lands have been settled can appreciate the serious and often fatal consequences to the settler of a policy that puts his title under suspension or delays the issuance of his patent. While care is taken to prevent and to correct fraud, it should not be forgotten that the honest and pre-emption laws were to promote the settlement of the public domain by persons having a bona fide intent to make a home upon the selected lands. Where the intent is well established and the requirements of the law have been substantially complied with the claimant is entitled to the prompt and friendly consideration of his case. But where there is reason to believe that the claimant is the mere agent of another who is seeking to evade the law intended to promote small holdings and to secure new settlers, both principal and agent should not only be thwarted in their fraudulent purpose but should be made to feel the full penalties of our criminal statutes. The laws should be so administered as not to confound these two classes and to visit penalties only upon the latter.

The Pension Law.

The law now provides a pension for every soldier and sailor who was mustered into the service of the United States during the civil war and is now suffering from wounds or disease having an origin in the service and in the line of duty. Two of the three necessary facts, viz., that the disability is, in some cases, of easy proof; but the third, origin in the service, is often difficult, and in many deserving cases, impossible to establish. That very many of those who endured the hardships of our most bloody and arduous campaigns are now disabled from diseases that had a real, but not traceable, origin in the service, I do not doubt. Besides these there is another class composed of men, many of whom served an enlistment of three full years, and of re-enlisted veterans who added a fourth year of service, who escaped the casualties of battle and the assaults of disease, who were always ready for any detail, who were in every battle line of their command and have since the close of the war, while fighting with the same indomitable and independent spirit the contests of civil life, been overcome by disease or casualty. I am not unaware that the pension roll already involves a very large annual expenditure; nevertheless I deterred by that fact from recommending that congress grant a pension to such honorably discharged soldiers and sailors of the civil war as, having rendered substantial service during the war, are now dependent upon their own labor for a maintenance, and by disease or casualty are incapacitated from earning it. Many of the men who would be included in this form of relief are now dependent upon public aid, and it does not in my judgment consist with the national honor that they shall continue to subsist upon the local relief given indiscriminately to paupers instead of upon the special and generous provision of the nation for those who served so gallantly and bravely. Our people will, I am sure, very generally approve such legislation. And I am equally sure that the survivors of the Union army and navy will feel a grateful sense of relief when this worthy and suffering class of their comrades is fairly cared for and when the some manifest inequalities in the existing law that should be remedied. To some of these the secretary of the interior has called attention. It is gratifying to be able to state that since the adoption of new and better methods in the department, the calls of the pension office for information, as to the military and hospital records of pension claimants are now promptly answered, and the injurious and vexatious delays that have heretofore



