President Harrison's Annual Review and Recommendations.

AT PEACE WITH THE WORLD

The Year's Work Done by the Various Executive Departments.

THE NATIONAL BANK QUESTION.

The Tariff Should Be Revised, but the Protective Principle Should Be Maintained -The Surplus Should Be Reduced by Re tirement of Government Bonds--Pension Should Be Awarded Where the Nation's Defenders Escaped Disease in War but Contracted Ills in the Battle of Life-Better Coast Defenses and an Improved Navy Among the Recommendations.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 3. 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 those charged with the conduct 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 these annual communications of the president to congress.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Good will and cordiality have characterized our relations and correspondence with other governments, and the year just closed leaves few international questions of importance remaining unadjusted. No obstacle is believed to exist that can long postpone the consideration and adjustment of the still pending questions upon satisfactory and honorable ent time, is of interest. It appears that the amount of national bank notes in circulation has decreased during that the cour own keeping. I urgently recomposition of other nations. There should be a second line wholly in our own keeping. I urgently recomposition of other nations. There should be a second line wholly in our own keeping. I urgently recomposition of other nations. terms. The dealings of this government with other states have been, and should always be, marked by frankness and sincerity, our purposes avowed and our methods 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 doing with foreign governments has secured to us.

THE TREASURY.

The report of the secretary of the treasury for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1889, has been prepared and will be presen.ed 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 year were \$387,050,058.84, derived as

The ordinary expenditures for the same period were \$281,996,615.60, and total expenditures, including the sinking fund, were \$329,579,929.25. The excess of receipts over expenditures was, after providing for the sinking fund, \$57,470,-129.59. For the current fiscal year the the total revenues, actual and estimated, are \$385,000,000, and the ordinary expenditures, actual and e timated, are \$293,000,000, making, with the sinking fund, a total expenditure of \$341,321,-116.99, leaving an estimated surplus of

During the fiscal year there was applied to the purchase of bonds in addition to those for the sinking fund \$90,456,-172.35, and during the first quarter of the current year the sum of \$37,838,937.77; all of which were credited to the sinking fund. The revenues for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1891, are estimated by the treasury department at \$385,700,000 and the expenditures for the same period including the sinking fund, at \$341,-430,477.70. This shows an estimated surplus for that year of \$43,569, 522.30, which is more likely to be increased than reduced when the actual transactions are written up.

The Surplus. The existence of so large an actual and anticipated surplus should have the 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 an 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 collect revenue for the purpose of anticipating 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, and the profit realized by the government offers 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 denseits to available to the public domain by make the conditions that statutory enactions and disposition to the character and good disposition disposition to the character and good disposition to the character 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 artinued. They now practically get interest both upon the bonds and their proceeds. No further use should be made of this method of getting the surplus into circulation, and the deposits now outstanding should be

congress has taken the necessary steps for a reduction of the revenue. Such legislation should be promptly but very considerately enacted. The Tariff. I recommend a revision of our tariff

gradually withdrawn and applied to the

purchase of bonds. It is fortunate that such a use can be made of the existing

surplus, and for some time to come of

any casual surplus that may exist after

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en, ooth in its administrative tracures and in the schedules. The need of the former is generally conceded and an agreement upon the evils and inconveniences to be remedied and the best methods for their correction will probably not be difficult. Uniformity of valuation at all our ports is essential, and effective measures should be taken to secure it. It is equally desirable that questions affecting rates and classifica-tions should be promptly decided. The preparation of a new schedule of customs duties is a matter of great delicacy. because of its effect upon the business of the country, of great difficulty by reason of the wide divergence of opinion as to the objects that may be promoted by such legislation. Some disturbance of business may perhaps result from consideration of this subject by congress, but this temporary ill effect will be reduced to the minimum by prompt action and assurance which the country enjoys that any necessary changes will be so made as not to impair the just and rea-sonable protection of our home industries. The inequalities of the law should be adjusted, but.

The Protecive Principle Should be Main-

and fairly applied to the products of our farms as well as our shops. These duties necessarily have relation to other things besides the public revenue. 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 legislator should en-large the field of his vision to include all

The necessary reduction in our public revenues can be made without makng 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 thereon articles that do not offer injurious competition to such domestic products as our home labor can supply. The removal of the in-ternal tax upon tobacco would relieve an important agricultural product from a burden which was imposed only because our revenue from customs duties was insufficient for the public needs. If safe provision against fraud can be devised the removal of the tax upon spirits used in the arts and in manufactures would also offer an unobjectionable method of reducing the surplus. 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 presis chargeable to the last year.

The Withdrawal of Bank Circulation will necessarily continue under existing conditions. It is probable the adoption of the suggestions made by the comptroller of the currency, viz., that t'e minimum deposit of bonds for the establishment of banks be reduced, and that an issue of notes to the par value of the bond be allowed, would help to maintain the bank circulation, but while this withdrawal of bank notes has been going on there has been a large increase in the amount of gold and silver coin in circulation, and in the issues of gold and silver certificates. The total amount of money of all kinds in circulation on March 1, 1878, was \$805,-793,807, while on Oct. 1, 1889, the total amount was \$1,405,018,000. There was an increase of \$293,417,552 in gold and of \$57,554,100 in standard silver dollars, of \$72,311,149 in gold certificates, of \$276,619,715 in silver certificates, and of \$14,073,787 in United States notes, making a total of \$713,976,403. There was during the same period a decrease of \$114,109,729 in bank circulation and of \$642,481 in subsidiary net increase was \$599,224,-193. The circulation per capita has increased about \$5 during the time covered by the table referred to.

The total coinage of silver dollars was, on Nov. 1, 1889, \$343,638,001, of which \$283,539,521 were in the treasury vaults and \$60,098,480 were in circulation. Of the amount in the vaults \$277,319,944 were represented by outstanding silver certificates, leaving \$6,219,577 not in circulation and not represented by certifi-

The law requiring the purchase by

the treasury of \$2,000,000 worth of silver bullion each month, to be coined into silver dollars of 4121 grains, has been observed by the department, but neither the pre ent secretary nor any of his predecessors has deemed it safe to exercise the discretion given by law to increase the monthly purchases to \$4,000,000. When the law was enacted (Feb. 28, 1878) the price of silver in the market was \$1.20 4-10 per ounce, making the bullion value of the dollar 93 cents. Since that time the price has fallen as low as 91.2 cents per ounce, reducing the bullion value of the dollar to 70.6 cents. Within the last few months the market price has somewhat advanced, and on the 1st day of November last the bullion value of the silver dollar was 72 cents. The evil anticipations which have accompanied the coinage and use of the silver dollar have not been realized a coin it has not had general use, and the public treasury has been compelled to store it. But this is manifestl; owing to the fact that its paper representative is more convenient. The general acceptance and use of the silver certificate show that silver has not been otherwise discredited. Some fanave contributed to maintain this practical equality in their commercial use, between the gold and silver dollars. But some of these are will be taken account of in commercial transactions, and I fear the same result would follow any considerable increase of present rate of coinage; such a result would be discreditable to our financial management and disastrous to all busi-

The Dangerous Edge of Such a Peril. and indeed nothing more harmful could happen to the silv r interests. Any safe legislation upon this subject must secure the equality of the two coins in the commercial uses. I have always been an advocate of the use of silver in our currancy. We are large producers of that metal and should not discredit it. To the plan which will be presented by the secretary of the treasury for the issuance of notes of certificates upon the deposit of silver bullion at its market value, I have been able to give only a hasty ex-

ness interests. We should not tread

matters and to the fact that it has been so recently formulated. The details of such a law require careful consideration, but the general plan suggested by him seems to satisfy the purpose to continue 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.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS. The enforcement of the Chines exclusion act has been found to be very difficult on the northwestern fron-tier. Chinamen landing at Victoria find it easy to pass our border, owing to the impossibility with the force at 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 enforce the law. The Dominion exacts a head tax of \$50 for each Chinaman landed 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 payment of the tax. An effort will be made to reach an understanding that will remove this difficulty.

The proclamation required by section 3, of the act of March 2, 1889, relating to the ki ling of seals and other fur-bearing animals, was issued by me on the 21st day of March, and a revenue vessel was dispatched to enforce the laws and protect the interests of the United States. demonstrated that she is a first-class The establishment of a refuge station at Point Barrow as directed by congress, was unsuccessfully accomplished. Judged

by modern standards we are Practically Without Coast Defences. Many of the structures we have would enhance rather than diminish the perils of their garrisons if subjected to fire of improved guns, and very few are so lo-cated as to give full effect to the greater range of such guns as we are now making for coast-defence use. This general subject has had consideration in congress for some years, and the appropria-tion for the construction of large rifled guns, made one year ago, was, I am sure, the expression of a purpose to provide suitable works in which these guns might be mounted. An appropriation now made for that purpose would not advance the completion of the works beyond our ability to supply them with effective guns. The security of our coast cities against foreign attacks should not rest altogether in the mend an appropriation at ti for the construction of such works in our much exposed harbors. I approve the suggestion of the secretary of war that provisions be made for encamping com-panies of the National Guards in our coast works for a specified time each heavy guns. His suggestion that an increase of the artillery force of the army is desirable is also in connection commended to the consideration of con-

River and Harbor Improvement. The improvement of our important rivers and harbors should be promoted by the necessary appropriations. Care should be taken that the government is not committed to the prosecution of works not of public and general advantage, and that the relative usefulness of works of that class is not overlooked. So far as this work can ever be said to be completed, I do not doubt that the end would be sooner and more econom. ically reached if fewer separate works were undertaken at the same time and those selected for their greater general begun should not be subjected to the risk and deterioration which interrupted or insufficient appropriations necessarily

Supreme Court Relief. The necessity of providing some more speedy methods for disposing of the cases which now come for final adjudication to the supreme court becomes every year more apparent and urgent. The plan of providing some intermediate courts having final appellate jurisdiction of certain cla ses of questions and cases has, I think, received a more general appro al from the bench and bar of the country than any other. Without attempting to discuss details, I recommend that provision should be made for the establishment of such courts.

The salaries of the judges of the dis trict courts in many of the districts are in my judgment inadequate. I recommend that all such salaries now below \$5,000 per annum be increased to that amoun: It is quite true that the labor performed by these judges is very unequal, but as th y cannot proper y engage in other pursuits to supplement their incomes, the salary should be such in all cases as to provide an independent and comfortable

Earnest attention should be given by congress to a consideration of the question how far the restraint of those combinations of capital commonly called "trusts" is a matter of federal jurisdiction. When organized as they often are tocrush out all healthy competition, 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 the subject of prohibitory and International Copyright.
has been frequently commended to the attention of congress by my predeces-sors. The enactment of such a law

would be eminently wise and just. Our Naturalization Laws shores to swell the injurious influence

domicile. The enactment of A National Bankrupt Law of a character to be a permenant part of our general legislation is desirable. It should be simple in its methods and in-expensive in its administration.

THE DEPARTMENTS.

The Report of the Postmaster General not only exhibits the operations of the department for the fiscal year, but conhave been able to give only a hasty ex-amination, owing to the press of other improvement and extension of the serv-

ice, which are commended to your attention. No other branch of the government has so close a contact with the daily life of the people. Almost every one uses the service it offers, and every hour gained in the transmission of the great commercial mails are an actual and possible value that only those engaged in the trade can understand. The saving of one day in the transmission of the appointment of Hon. Warren G. the mails between New York and San Francisco, which has recently been ac-complished, is an incident worthy of mention. The plan suggested of a supervision of the postoffices in separate districts that shall involve instruction and suggestion and a rating of the effino doubt, greatly improve the service.
The unsatisfactory condition of the law
relating to the transmission through the mail of lottery advertisements and remittances is clearly stated by the post-master general, and his suggestion as to amendment should have your favorable consideration.

THE NAVY.

The report of the secretary of the navy shows a reorganization of the bureaus of the department that will, I do not doubt, promote the efficiency of each. In general satisfactory progress has been made in the construction of the new ships of our war authorized by congress. The first vessel of the new navy, the Dolphin, was subjected to very severe trial tests and to very much criticism, but it is gratifying to be able to state that a cruise around the world, from vessel of her rate. The reports of the secretary shows that while the effective force of the navy is rapidly increasing by reas n of the improved build and armament of the new ships, the number of our ships fit for sea duty grows very slowly. We had on the 4th of March last thirty-seven serviceable ships, and though four have since been added to the list the total has not been increased, because in the meantime four have been lost or condemned. Twenty-six additional vessels vessels Twenty-six have been authorized and appropriated for, but it is probable that when they are completed our list will only ie increased to forty-two, a gain of five. The old wooden ships are disappearing as fast as the new vessels are added. These facts carry their own argument. One of the new ships may, in fighting strength, be equal to two of the old, but it cannot do the cruising duties of two. It is important, therefore, that we should have a more rapid increase in number of

be authorized. An Appalling Calamity befell three of our naval vessels on duty at the Samoan islands, in the harbor of Apia, in March last, involving the loss of four officers and forty-seven seamen of year for their training in the use of two vessels, the Trenton and Vandalia, and the disabling of the third, the Nip-sic. Three vessels of the German navy also in the harbor, shared with our ships the force of the hurricane and suffered even more heavily. While mourning the brave officers and men who died facing with high resolve perils greater than those of cattle, it is most gratifying to state the credit of the American navy for seamenship, courage and generosity was magnificently sustained in the storm-beaten harbor of Apia.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

The report of the secretary of the interior exhibits the transactions of the government with the Indian tribes. Substantial progress has been made in the education of the children of a school age and in the allotment of lands to adult interest were more rapidly pushed to Indians. It is to be regret ed that the completion. A work once considerably policy of breaking up the tribal relation policy of breaking up the tribal relation and of dealing with the Indian as an individual did not appear earlier in our legislation. Large reservations held in common and the maintenance of the authority of the chiefs and headmen, have deprived the dividual of every incentive to the exereise of thrift, and the annuity has contributed an affirmative impulse toward a state of confirmed pauperism. Our treaty stipulations should be observed with fidelity, and our legislation should be highly considerate of the best interests of an ignorant and helpless people. The ed by white settlements. We can no longer push the Indian back into the wilderness, and it remains only by every suitable agency to push him upward into the estate of a self-supporting and re-sponsible citizen. For the adult the first step is to locate him on a farm and for the child to place him in a school. The national schools for Indians have been very successful and should be multiplied, and as far as possible should be so organized and conducted as to facilitate the transfer of the schools to the states or territories in which they are ocated when the Indians in a neighborhood have accepted citizenship and have become fitted for such a transfer. The last congress enacted two distinct laws relating to negotiations with the Sioux Indians of Dakota for a relinquishment of a portion of their lands to the United States, and for dividing the remainder into separate reservations. Both were approved on the same day, March 2. The one submitted to the Indians a specific proposition, the other (section 3 of the Indian appropriation act) authorized by the president to appoint three commissioners to negotiate with these Indians even penal legislation. The subject of an for the accomplishment of the general purpose and required that any agreement made should be submitted to congress for ratification. On the sixteenth day of April last 1 appointed Hon. Chas. Foster, of Ohio, Hon. Wm. Warner, of Missouri, and the settlement of the public domain by by requiring the presence of some one the assent of the requisite number to who shall represent the government in the inquiry. Those who are the enemies of social order or who come to our work of the commission was prolonged and arduous, but the assept of the requisand to extend the evil practices of any ite number was, it is said, association that defies our laws, should finally obtained to the proposition. This not only be denied citizenship, but a argument releases to the United States about nine million acres of land.

The commission provides for by se 14, of the Indian appropriation bill to negotiate with the Cherokee Indians and all other Indians owning or claiming lands lying west of the ninety sixth degree of longitude for the session to the United States, of all such lands was constituted by the appointment of Hon. Lucius Fairchild of Wisconsin, Hon. John F. Hartranft of Pennsylvania and Hon. Alfred M. Wilson of Arkansas, and organized on June 29 last. Their first conference with the represen-tatives of the Cherokees was held at

Tahlequah July 29, with no definite results. Gen. John F. Hartranft of Pennsylvania was prevented by ill-health from taking part in the conference. His death, which occurred recently, is justly and generally lamented by a people he Sayre of Indiana. A second conference between the commission and the Cherokees was begun Nov. 6, but no results have yet been obtained, nor is it believed that a conclusion can be immediately expected. The cattle syndicate now occupying the lands 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" ought not to be and cannot long be held for grazing and for the advantage of a few against the public interests and the best advantage of the Indians them-selves. The United States has now under the treaties certain rights in these lands. These will not be used oppressively, but it cannot be allowed that those who by sufferance occupy these lands shall interpose to defeat the wise and beneficent purposes of the government.

I cannot but believe that the advantageous 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 Muskogee (or Creek) nation of nations on the 19th day January, 1888, an absolute title was se-cured by the United States to about three and a half millions of acres of

Section 12 of the general Indian appropriation act, approved March 2, 1889, made provision for the purchase by the United States from the Seminoles of a certain portion of their land. The delegates of the Seminole nation, having first duly evidenced to me their power to act in that behalf, delivered a proper release and conveyance to the use of all the lands mentioned in the act, which was accepted by me and certified to be in compliance with the statute. By the term of 1 oth the acts referred to all the lands so purchased were declared to be a part of the public domain and open to settlement Under the Homestead Law,

but a portion of the land embraced in

these purchases being in the aggregate about five and a half million acres. had

already under the terms of the treaty of 1866 been acquired by the United States g otner lixuai tribes thereon and had been appropriated to that purpose. The land remaining and unavanaous tor possionious collsisted of 1,887,796 acres surrounded on all sides by lands in the occupancy of Indian tribes. Congress had provided no civil government for the people who were to be united by my proclamation, except as the been established at Muscogee, or the United States court in some of the adjoining states, had ower to enforce the general laws of the United States. In this condition of things, I was quite reluctant to open the lands to settlement, but in view of the fact that the several thousand per-sons, many of them with their families, had gathered upon the borders of the Indian territory with a view of securing homesteads on the ceded lands. All that delay in-All that volved them in much and suffering. I did on the 93d day of March last, issue a proclamation declaring that the lands therein described would be open to settlement "" 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 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. It is estimated that there now in the territory about 60, 100 people, and several con iderable towns have sprung up, for which temporary municipal governments have been organized. I very urgently recommend that congress at once provide a territorial go ernment for these people. Serious questions, which may at any time lead to violent outbreaks, are awaiting the institution of courts for their peaceful adjustment. The American genius for self government has been well illustrated in Oklahoma, but it is neither safe nor wise to leave these people longer to the expedients which have temporarily served them.

In the administration of the land laws the policy of facilitating in every proper way the adjustment of the Honest Claims of Individual Settlers on the public lands has been pursued

The number of pending cases had, during the preceding administration, been 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 suspicion or de-la the issuance of his patent. While care is taken to prevent and expose fraud, not be imputed without reason. The manifest purpose of the homestead and pre-emption laws was to promote ant is entitled to a 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 by fraudulent methods large tracts of tim-ber and other lands, both principal and and agents 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

Alaska the mistaken policy of establishing reservations for the Indian tribes, and can deal with them .rom the begin-ning as individuals with, I am sure, bet-ter results. But any disposition of the

public lands and any regulations leading to timber and to the fisheries should have a kindly regard to their interests. Having no power to levy taxes the people of Alaska are wholly dependent upon the general government, to whose revenues the seal fisheries make a large annual contribution. An appropriation for te-ductions should neither be overlooked nor stinted. The smallness of the population and the great distances between the settlements offer serious obstacles to the establishment of the usual territorial form of government. Perhaps the or-ganization of several sub-districts, with a small municipal council of limited powers for each, would be safe and useful. Attention is called in this connection to suggestions of the secretary of the treasury in relation to the establishment of another port of entry in Alaska and of other needed customs facilities and regulations.

New Mexico and Arizona has greatly retarded the growth of those territories. Provisions should be made by law for the prompt trial and final adjustment before a judicial tribunal or commission of all claims based upon Mexican grants. It is not just to an intelligent and enterprising people that their peace should be disturbed and their prosperity retarded by these old contentions. I hope that differences of opinion as to methods may yield to the urgency of the case.

The law provides a pension for every

soldier and sailor who was mustered into

nitted

the service of the United States during the civil war and is now suffering from wounds or disease having an rigin in the service, and the line of duty—two of three necessary facts, viz: muster and disability are usually susceptible 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 disabl d from diseases that had a real but not traceable origin in service, we do not doubt. Besides those are another class composed on men, many of whom served an enlist-ment of the three full years and of reenlisted veterans who added a fourth year of service, who escaped the casualties of battles and the assaults of dis ease, who were always ready for any detail, who were in every battle line of their command, and were mustered out in sound health 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 al eady involves a very large annual ex-penditure, neither am 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 casuality are incapaciated for earnings. 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 they served so gallantly and unselfishly. 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 grateful sense of relief when this worthy and suffering class of their comrades are fairly cared for. Therein some manifest qualities in exist-ing law that should be remembered. To some of these the secretary of the interior has called attention.

It is gratifying to be able to state that on account of new and better methods in the war 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 which have heretofore occurred are eatirely avoided. This will greatly facilitate the adjustment of all pending claims.

The New States.

The advent of four new states-South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana and Washington-into the union under to constutition in the same month, and the admission of their duly chosen representatives to our national congress at the same session, is an event as unampled as it is interesting. The certification of the votes cast and of the constitution adopted in each of the states was filed with no as required by the eighth section of the act of Feb. 22, 1889, by the governors of said territories respectively. Having, after a careful examination, found that the several constitutions and governments were republican in form and not repugnant to the Constitution of the United States, that all the provisions of the act of congress had been complied with, and that a majority of votes cast in each of said proposed states was in favor of adoption of the constitution submitted therein, I did so declare by a separ. te proclamation as to each; as to North Dakota and South Dakota on Saturday, Nov. 2, as to Montana on Friday, Nov. 8, and as to Washington on Monday, Nov. 11.

Relief for Railway Employes. During the year ending June 30, 1888 over two thousand employes were killed m service and more than twenty thousand injured. It is competent, I think, for congress to require uniformity in the construction of cars used in inter-state commerce and the use of improved safety appliances upon such trains. Time will be necessary to make the needed changes, but an earnest and intelligent beginning should be made at once.

The president recommends that the weather service be separated from the war department; says the creation of the agricultural department was a wise and timely response to a request long re-spectfully urged; commends the work of the civil service reform commission, and recommends a system of promotion for efficiency: recommends government aid for educational purposes, to be used in connection with social and state funds; pays a tribute to the colored race, and

I earnestly invoke the attention of congress to the consideration of such measures, with its well defined constitutional powers as will secure to all our people a so administered as not to confound these two classes, and to visit penalties only upon the latter. The unsettled state of the title to large bodies of lands in the territories of

Alaska.

Alaska.

The law of the executive or of congress, of powers not granted, but both will be highly blameable if all the powers granted are not wisely but firmly used to correct these evils. free exercise of the right of suffrage and every other civil right under the consti-

to correct these evils.

A recitation of the crippled condition of our merchant marine and recommendations for its upbuilding close the message

medium west of the Mississippi river. Valuatierom this article.