

PRESIDENTIAL TALK.

ANNUAL MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT CLEVELAND.

Foreign Affairs Lightly Touched Upon—Relations of United States With Other Nations—A History of the Treasury Difficulty and Efforts Put Forth to Remedy It—Other Subjects Under Discussion.

The President's Message.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The following is the President's message:

To the Congress of the United States:—The present assemblage of the legislative branch of our government occurs at a time when the interests of our people and the needs of the country give special prominence to the condition of our foreign relations and the expediency of our monetary policy. The reports of the several administrative departments of the government fully and plainly exhibit what has been accomplished within the scope of their respective duties and present such recommendations for the betterment of our country's condition as to merit and intelligent labor and attention.

I therefore deem my executive duty adequately performed at this time by presenting to the Congress the important phases of our situation as related to our intercourse with foreign nations and a statement of the principal problems which confront us, omitting, except as they are related to those topics, any reference to departmental operations.

I earnestly invite, however, not only the personal consideration, but the severe critical scrutiny of the members of the flow country to the reports concerning these departmental operations. If justly and fairly examined they furnish proof of assiduous and painstaking care for the public welfare. I present the recommendations they contain in the respectful attention of those charged with the duty of legislation, because I believe their adoption would promote the people's good.

Missionary Riots in China.
The close of the momentous struggle between China and Japan, while relieving the diplomatic agents of this government from the harassing duties they performed in behalf of both countries of rendering aid service to subjects of either belligerent within the territory limits of the other as our neutral position permitted, developed a domestic condition in the Chinese empire which has caused deep and painful sorrows. It is a sad condition which has called for prompt and careful attention. It is the result of a weak control by the central government over the provincial administrations, following a diminution of traditional governmental authority under the stress of an overwhelming rebellion, and a consequent relaxation upon good opportunities of the aversion of the Chinese population to all foreign ways and understandings, there have occurred in widely separated provinces of China serious outbreaks of the fanatical spirit against foreigners, which, unchecked by the central authority, have not only resulted in the actual wounding and killing of missionaries, but also in the destruction of property, and in many instances the death of the missionaries themselves. Although the American missionaries have been treated with particular respect, and have not fallen more heavily upon the misdeeds of other nationalities than our own, it plainly behooved this government to take the most prompt and decided action to guard against similar or perhaps more dreadful calamities.

The demands of the United States and other powers for the degradation and punishment of the responsible officials of the respective cities in provinces where outbreaks of violence had permitted up-risings and for the adoption of measures by the Emperor's government for the protection of the life and property of foreigners, were followed by the disgrace and the loss of certain provincial officials found guilty in duty, and by the punishment of a number of those found guilty of actual participation in the outrages. This government also insisted that a special American commission should visit the province where the most disturbances occurred for the purpose of investigation. The latter commission, formed after much opposition, has gone overland from Peking accompanied by a suitable Chinese escort, and by its demonstration of the readiness and ability of our government to protect its citizens, has been received, as a most influential deterrent of any similar outbreaks.

The Walker Cases.
The customary cordial relations between this country and France have been undisturbed, with the exception that a full explanation of the treatment of John L. Walker by the expeditionary military authorities of France still remains to be given. Mr. Walker, formerly United States consul at Tananarive, remained in Madagascar after his term of office expired and was apparently successful in procuring business concessions from the Rova, of greater value than any which he had secured in his native land and the declaration of martial law by the French, he was arrested upon various charges, among them, that of communicating military information to the enemy of France, was tried and convicted by a military tribunal and sentenced to imprisonment for life. Following the course justified by abundant precedents, this government demanded from that of France the record of the proceedings of the French tribunal, which resulted in Mr. Walker's condemnation. This request has been complied with to the extent of supplying a copy of the beneficial record from which appear the constitution and organization of the Court, the charges as formulated and the general course and result of the trial by the military authorities. The accused was tried in open court and was defended by counsel. But the evidence adduced in support of the charges, which was not reported by the French minister of foreign affairs until the first week in October, has thus far been withheld. It is not known whether the demand that the production in response to our demand would establish a precedent. The efforts of our ambassador to procure it, however, though impeded by recent changes in the French ministry, have not been relaxed, and it is confidently expected that a satisfactory solution of the matter will shortly be reached. Meanwhile it appears that Mr. Walker's confinement has been alleviated, which is a fact of health and all the other circumstances of his case demand the same.

Trade Complications With Germany.
Our relations with the states of the German empire are in some aspects typical of a condition of things which are found in a country whose production and trade are similar to our own. The close rivalry of competing industries, the influence of the protective tariff, and the desire to retain trade in their own hands, regardless of the inexorable law of new supply and our own having hindrance in inventing a free exchange of commodities, and by this means impeding our feeling in a market naturally open to us, have created a situation somewhat injurious to American export interests, not only in Germany, where they are perhaps most noticeable, but in adjacent countries. The exports affected are largely American textile and other food products, the reason assigned for unfavorable discrimination being that their consumption is deleterious to the public health. This is all the more irritating in view of the fact that no European State is so unscrupulous as to guarantee the quality of its exported food supplies as the United States, but so easily able on account of inherent advantages, to guarantee the quality of its goods, as to be entitled to a preferential position in the market of a third country. In view of the fact that our own manufacturers, as a result of our protective tariff, are not so unscrupulous as to guarantee the quality of their goods, as to be entitled to a preferential position in the market of a third country. In view of the fact that our own manufacturers, as a result of our protective tariff, are not so unscrupulous as to guarantee the quality of their goods, as to be entitled to a preferential position in the market of a third country.

nati mal trade can not be one-sided. Its currents are alternating and its movements should be managed with care. Without this almost necessarily degenerates into a desire to gain advantage or a contrivance to secure benefits with only the semblance of a return. In our dealings with other nations we ought to be open-minded and scrupulously fair. This should be our policy as a producing nation, and it plainly becomes us as a people whose love of generosity and the moral aspects of national good faith and reciprocal forbearance. These considerations should not, however, prevent us from maintaining a firm position in our relations with other nations. In our relations with Germany we should be on our guard against the influence of the mercenary and the desire to gain advantage, but we should be on our guard against the influence of the mercenary and the desire to gain advantage.

The Bohring Sea Matter.
Our relations with Great Britain, always in intimate and important relations, during the past year, opened a greater share of consideration than in usual. Several vexatious questions were left undetermined by the decision of the Bohring sea arbitration tribunal. The application of the principles laid down by the August body has not been followed in all respects which they were intended to accomplish, either because the principles themselves lacked in breadth and definiteness or because their execution has been more or less imperfect. The understanding by which the United States was bound, in the Bohring sea arbitration, to receive a lump sum of \$10,000,000 in full settlement of all British claims for damages arising from our seizure of British sealing vessels unauthorized under the award of the Paris tribunal of arbitration was not confirmed by the last Congress, which directed me to make the necessary arrangements to meet the claims of the United States, but to make the necessary arrangements to meet the claims of the United States, but to make the necessary arrangements to meet the claims of the United States.

The Venezuela Issue.
It being apparent that the boundary dispute between Great Britain and the Republic of Venezuela, concerning the limits of British Guiana, is of a nature which admits of a definite settlement, it is the policy of the United States as regards the controversy to be viewed of its relations with the friendly powers directly concerned. In July last, therefore, an expeditionary force of United States troops was sent to the frontier of the Republic of Venezuela, in order to maintain the peace and order in that region. The expedition was well received by the Venezuelan authorities, and the United States troops were well treated. The expedition was well received by the Venezuelan authorities, and the United States troops were well treated.

The Hawaiian Matter.
Early in January last an uprising against the Hawaiian monarchy was promptly suppressed. Martial law was proclaimed, and numerous arrests were made of persons suspected of being in sympathy with the Hawaiian party. Among these were several citizens of the United States, who were either deported to a military camp and sentenced to death, imprisonment for life, or were banished without trial. The United States, while denying protection to those who had taken the Hawaiian oath of allegiance, insisted that martial law, though altering the forms of justice, could not supersede the Hawaiian law, and demanded a stay of execution until the proceedings had been submitted to this government, and knowledge obtained therefrom that our citizens had received fair trial. The death sentences were subsequently commuted or were raised on appeal. The Hawaiian monarchy was restored, and the Hawaiian people were allowed to choose their own ruler. The Hawaiian monarchy was restored, and the Hawaiian people were allowed to choose their own ruler.

Lynching of Italians in Colorado.
The case of the lynching of several Italian laborers in Colorado was recently followed by international representation and I am happy to say that the best efforts of the State in which these outrages occurred have been put forth to discover and punish the authors of this atrocious crime. The deaths of these unfortunate victims have provoked a feeling of deep condolence and sympathy for their families. These manifestations against lawless aliens may be traced through successive stages of the vicious padrone system which has been the cause of the Italian laborer in the West. It is a system which, by its labor statutes, controls the workers from the moment of landing on our shore, and drives them out in distant and often rude regions, where their cheapening competition in the fields of labor has been the cause of their suffering. It is a system which, by its labor statutes, controls the workers from the moment of landing on our shore, and drives them out in distant and often rude regions, where their cheapening competition in the fields of labor has been the cause of their suffering.

Congratulations to Japan.
Japan has furnished abundant evidence of her progress and her advancement, and it is a matter of congratulation that she has reached a position of national strength and independence. Her progress and her advancement, and it is a matter of congratulation that she has reached a position of national strength and independence. Her progress and her advancement, and it is a matter of congratulation that she has reached a position of national strength and independence.

Samoa Arrangement Unsatisfactory.
In my last annual message I called the attention of the Congress to the position we occupied as one of the parties to a treaty with Samoa, which treaty became only a nominal one, and we have not been able to reach a satisfactory arrangement with Samoa, which treaty became only a nominal one, and we have not been able to reach a satisfactory arrangement with Samoa.

to restore United States notes in equal amount to 80 per cent of such additional National Bank circulation. Such notes were reduced to 500,000,000, and after the last day of January, 1879, the United States notes then outstanding, should be redeemed in coin, and in order to provide and prepare for such redemption the secretary of the treasury is authorized not only to use any surplus revenues of the government, but to issue bonds of the United States and dispose of them for coin and to use the proceeds for the purposes contemplated by the statute.

The Cuban Rebellion.
Cuba is again gravely disturbed, an insurrection in some respects more active than the last preceding revolt, which continued from 1868 to 1878, now exists in a large part of the Eastern portion of the island, menacing even some of the commercial exchanges of the island, of which our country takes the predominant share. This flagrant condition of hostilities by a rising sentiment of sympathy and inciting advertisements among our people, has on the one hand, called for a more energetic and bold effort to enforce obedience to our neutrality laws and to prevent the territory of the United States from being abused as a vantage ground from which to aid those in arms against Spain, and on the other hand, to secure the traditional sympathy of our countrymen at individuals with people who seem to be struggling for larger autonomy and greater freedom deepened as such sympathy naturally must be by the plain duty of the government to restrain them from isolating individuals the neutrality of our country, the recognized obligations of international law, and the performance of this duty should not be made more difficult by a disregard on part of our citizens of the obligations of their country. It is the duty of the government to restrain them from isolating individuals the neutrality of our country, the recognized obligations of international law, and the performance of this duty should not be made more difficult by a disregard on part of our citizens of the obligations of their country.

The Turkish Troubles.
Occurrences in Turkey have continued to excite concern. The reported massacres of Christians in Armenia and the development there, and in other districts, of the spirit of fanaticism to Christian influence, naturally excited our attention. It is the duty of the government to restrain them from isolating individuals the neutrality of our country, the recognized obligations of international law, and the performance of this duty should not be made more difficult by a disregard on part of our citizens of the obligations of their country.

The Bond Contract.
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OUR FINANCES.
A Subject of the Greatest Importance to the American People.
As we turn from a review of our foreign relations to a consideration of the national financial situation we are immediately aware that we approach a subject of domestic concern, more important than any other that can engage our attention, and one at present in view of the present financial condition of the country, of a more complex and delicate character than any we have recently encountered.

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Retirement of Treasury Notes.
In other words, the government has paid in gold more than nine-tenths of its United States notes, and has redeemed in gold about one-half of its notes given for silver purchases without extinguishing by such payment one dollar of these notes. And added to all this we are reminded that to carry on this extraordinary financial system the government has incurred a bonded indebtedness of \$162,213,600 in efforts to maintain it, that an annual interest charge of such bonded indebtedness is more than \$11,000,000, and that we have suffered or are threatened with all this for the sake of supplying gold for foreign shipment and facilitating its hoarding in the hands of the people. It is our duty to provide for the redemption of the bonds authorized by the act of July 14, 1870.

long term bonds, thus increasing their liability as investments and because their payment will be well postponed to a period far beyond the present, and the burdens and perplexities when with increased rapidly and resources they would be more easily met, to further insure the cancellation of these notes and also provide a way by which gold may be added to our currency in lieu of them, a feature in the plan should be an authority given to the Secretary of the treasury to dispose of the bonds abroad for gold if necessary, to complete the contemplated redemption and cancellation permitting him use of the proceeds of such bonds to take up and cancel any of the notes that may be the property of any account. The increase of our bonded debt involved in this plan would be simply compensated by renewed activity and confidence in all business circles, the restored activity at home, the reinstated faith in our country's strength abroad, and the stimulation of every interest and industry that would follow the cancellation of the gold demand obligations now afflicting us. In any event the bonds now proposed would stand for the extinguishment of the bonded indebtedness, while in the path we now follow there lurks the menace of mending bonds with our indebtedness still undischarged and aggravated in every feature. The obligation necessary to find this indebtedness would be equal in amount those from which we have been relieved since 1854 by anticipation and payment beyond the requirements of the sinking fund out of our surplus revenues. The currency withdrawn by the retirement of the United States notes and treasury notes amounting to probably \$1,000,000,000 might be supplied by such gold as would be required for their retirement or by an increase in the aggregate capital of these notes in existence to meet the same amount. Their retirement would not only be a relief to our people, but a relief to our country.

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Free Silver.
While I have endeavored to make a plain statement of the financial condition of our country and the present danger to its prosperity, and to suggest a way which appears to be a safer financial system for our country, I do not wish to be understood as making any recommendation for the free coinage of silver, or for any other measure of the kind. It is our duty to provide for the redemption of the bonds authorized by the act of July 14, 1870.

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an opportunity affecting these notes in the treasury when received, and thus preventing their presentation for gold. Such retention to be made by the Treasury Department is essential, and this is precisely what is established so far as United States notes are concerned by law of 1875, forbidding their redemption. That the statute in so many words provides that these notes when received into the treasury and belonging to the United States shall be "Paid out again in the same circulation." It will moreover be readily seen that the government could not refuse to pay out United States notes and treasury notes in current transactions when demanded, and insist on paying out silver alone and still maintain the parity between that metal and the currency representing gold. Besides the accumulation in the treasury of currency of any kind exacted from the people through taxation is justly regarded as an evil and it cannot proceed far without vigorous protest against an unjustifiable retention of money.

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