

added to the protection of their interests and honor, and to humanity. Sure of the right, keeping free from all offense ourselves, actuated only by upright and patriotic considerations, moved neither by passion or selfishness, the government will continue its watchful care over the rights and property of American citizens and will devote none of its efforts to bring about by peaceful agencies a peace which shall be honorable and enduring. If it shall hereafter be a duty imposed by our obligations to ourselves, to civilization and humanity, to intervene with force, it shall be without fault on our part and only because the necessity for such action will be so clear as to command the support and approval of the civilized world.

URGES ANNEXATION OF HAWAII.

By a special message dated the 16th of June last I laid before the senate a treaty signed that day by the plenipotentiaries of the United States and of the Republic of Hawaii having for its purpose the incorporation of the Hawaiian Islands as an integral part of the United States, and under its sovereignty. The senate having removed the injunction of secrecy, although the treaty is still pending before that body, the subject may be properly referred to in this message because the necessary action of congress is required to determine by legislation many details of the eventual union should the fact of annexation be accomplished, as I believe it should be.

While consistently disavowing from a very early period any aggressive policy of absorption in regard to the Hawaiian group, as one series of declarations through three-quarters of a century has proclaimed the vital interest of the United States in the independent life of the islands and their intimate commercial dependency upon this country. At the same time it has been repeatedly asserted that in no event could the entire of Hawaiian statehood cease by the passage of the islands under the domination or influence of another power than the United States. Under these circumstances the logic of events required that annexation, before offered but declined, should in the ripeness of time come about as the natural result of strengthening the ties that bind us to those islands and be realized by the free will of the Hawaiian state.

That treaty was unanimously ratified without amendment by the senate and president of the Republic of Hawaii on the 10th of September last, and only awaits the favorable action of the American senate to effect the complete absorption of the islands into the domains of the United States. What the conditions of such a union shall be, the political relation thereof to the United States, the character of the local administration, the quality and degree of elective franchise of the inhabitants, the extension of the federal laws to the territory or the enactment of special laws to fit the peculiar condition thereof, the regulation of needs of labor therein, are all matters which the treaty has wisely relegated to the congress.

If the treaty is confirmed, as every consideration of dignity and honor requires, the wisdom of congress will see to it that, avoiding abrupt assimilation of elements perhaps hardly yet fitted to share in the highest franchise of citizenship and having due regard of the geographical conditions, the most just provisions for self-rule in local matters with the largest political liberties as an integral part of our nation will be accorded to the Hawaiians. No less is due to a people who, after nearly two years of demonstrated capacity to fulfill the obligations of self-governing statehood, come to their free will to merge their destinies in our body politic.

The questions which have arisen between Japan and Hawaii by reason of the treatment of Japanese laborers emigrating to the islands under the Hawaiian-Japanese convention of 1888 are in a satisfactory stage of settlement by negotiation. This government has not been invited to mediate, and on the other hand has sought no intervention in that matter, further than to evince its kindest disposition toward such a speedy and direct adjustment by the two sovereign states in interest as shall comport with equality and honor. It is gratifying to learn that the apprehensions at first displayed on the part of Japan lest the cessation of Hawaii's national life through annexation might impair privileges to which Japan honorably laid claim, have given place to expressions of confidence of its purpose to deal with all possible ulterior questions in the broadest spirit of friendliness.

AFFAIRS IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

As to the representation of this government to Nicaragua, Salvador and Costa Rica I have concluded that Mr. William L. Merry, confirmed as minister of the United States to the states of Nicaragua, Salvador and Costa Rica, shall proceed to San Jose, Costa Rica, and there temporarily establish headquarters of the United States to those three states. I took this action for what I regarded as the paramount interests of this country. It was developed upon an investigation by the secretary of state that the governor of Nicaragua, while not unwilling to receive Mr. Merry in his diplomatic capacity, was unable to do so on account of the compact concluded June 20, 1895, whereby the republic and those of Salvador and Honduras, forming what is known as the Greater Republic of Central America, had surrendered their right to receive and send diplomatic agents. The Diet was not willing to accept him because he was not accredited to that body. I could not accredit him to that body because the appropriation law of congress did not permit. Mr. Baker, the present minister to Managua, has been directed to present his letters of recall.

Mr. W. F. Godfrey Hunter has likewise been accredited to the governments of Guatemala and Honduras, the same as his predecessor. Guatemala is not a member of the Greater Republic of Central America, but Honduras should this latter government decline to receive him, he has been instructed to report this fact to his government and await its further instructions. A subject of large importance to our country and increasing appreciation on the part of the people is the completion of the great highway of trade between the Atlantic and Pacific known as the Nicaraguan

canal. Its utility and value to American commerce is universally admitted. The commission appointed under date of July 24 last, "To continue the surveys and examinations authorized by the act approved March 2, 1885," in regard "to the proper route, feasibility and cost of construction of the Nicaragua canal, with a view of making complete plans of entire work of construction of such canal," is now employed in the undertaking. In the future I shall take occasion to transmit to congress the report of this commission, making at the same time such further suggestions as may then seem advisable.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH OTHER NATIONS.

Under the provisions of the act of congress, approved March 3, 1897, for the promotion of an international agreement respecting bimetallicism, I appointed on the 14th day of April, 1897, Hon. Edward O. Wolcott, of Colorado, Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson, of Illinois, and Hon. Charles J. Paine, of Massachusetts, as special envoys to represent the United States. They have been diligent in their efforts to secure the concurrence and co-operation of European countries in the international settlement of the question, but up to this time have not been able to secure an agreement contemplated by their mission.

The gratifying action of our great sister republic of France in joining this country in the attempt to bring about an agreement between the principal commercial nations of Europe whereby a fixed and relative value between gold and silver shall be secured, furnishes assurances that we are not alone among the larger nations of the world in realizing the international character of the problem and the desire of reaching some wise and practical solution of it. The British government has published a resume of the steps taken jointly by the French ambassador in London and the special envoys of the United States, with whom our ambassador at London actively co-operated in the presentation of this subject to her majesty's government. This will be laid before congress. Our special envoys have not made their final report, as further negotiations between the representatives of this government and the governments of other countries are pending and in contemplation. They believe that doubts, which have been raised in certain quarters respecting the possibility of maintaining the stability of the parity between the metals and kindred questions may yet be solved by further negotiations.

Meanwhile it gives me satisfaction to state that the special envoys have already demonstrated their ability and fitness to deal with the subject, and it is to be earnestly hoped that their labors may result in an international agreement which will bring about recognition of both gold and silver as money upon such terms and with such safeguards which shall work no injustice to any class of our citizens.

In order to execute as early as possible the provisions of the third and fourth sections of the revenue act, approved July 24, 1897, I appointed Hon. John A. Kasson, of Iowa, a special commissioner and plenipotentiary to undertake the requisite negotiations with foreign countries desiring to avail themselves of these provisions. The negotiations are now proceeding, with several governments, both European and American. It is believed that by a careful exercise of the powers conferred by that act some advantages of our own and of other countries in our mutual trade relations may be either removed or largely alleviated and that the volume of our commercial exchanges may be enlarged with advantages to both contracting parties.

Most desirable from every standpoint of national interest and patriotism is the effort to extend our foreign commerce. To this end our merchant marine should be improved and enlarged. We should do our full share of the carrying trade of the world. We do not do it now. We should be the laggard no longer. The inferiority of our merchant marine is justly humiliating to the national pride. The government, by every proper constitutional means, should aid in making our ships familiar visitors at every commercial port of the world, thus opening up new and valuable markets to the surplus products of our farm and the factory.

The efforts which have been made during the two previous years by my predecessor to secure better protection to the fur seals of the north Pacific ocean and Bering sea were renewed at an early date by this administration, and have been pursued with earnestness. Upon my invitation the governments of Japan and Russia sent delegates to Washington and an international conference was held during the months of October and November last, wherein it was unanimously agreed that under the existing regulations this species of useful animals was threatened with extinction, and that an international agreement of all interested powers was necessary for their adequate protection.

The government of Great Britain did not see proper to be represented at this conference, but subsequently to Washington as delegates the expert commissioners of Great Britain and Canada, who had during the past two years visited the Pribiloff islands, and who met in conference similar commissioners on the part of the United States. The result of this conference was an agreement on important facts connected with the condition of the seal herd heretofore in dispute, which should place beyond controversy the duty of the governments concerned to adopt measures without delay for the preservation and restoration of the herd. Negotiations to this end are now in progress, the result of which I hope to be able to report to congress at an early day.

International arbitration cannot be omitted from the list of subjects clamoring for our consideration. Events have only served to strengthen the general views on this question expressed in my inaugural address. The best sentiment of the civilized world is moving toward the settlement of differences between nations without resorting to the horrors of war. Treaties embodying these humane principles on broad lines without in any way imperiling our interests or our honor shall have my constant encouragement.

The acceptance by this government of the invitation of the republic of

France to participate in the Universal exposition of 1900 at Paris was immediately followed by the appointment of a special commissioner to represent the United States in the proposed exposition, with special reference to the securing of an appropriation for an adequate exhibition on behalf of the United States. The special commissioner delayed his departure for Paris long enough to ascertain the probable demand for space by American exhibitors. His inquiries developed an almost unprecedented interest in the proposed exposition, and the information thus acquired enabled him to justify an application for a much larger allotment of space for the American section than had been reserved by the Exposition authorities. The result was particularly gratifying in view of the fact that the United States was one of the last countries to accept the invitation of France.

The reception accorded our special commissioner was most cordial, and he was given every reasonable assurance that the United States would receive a consideration commensurate with the proportions of our exhibition. The reports of the special commissioner as to the importance and magnitude of the coming exhibition and the great demand for space for American exhibits supplies new arguments for a liberal and judicious appropriation by congress, to the end that an exhibit fairly representative of the industries and resources of our country may be made in the exposition which will illustrate the world's progress during the nineteenth century. That exposition is intended to be the most important and comprehensive of the long series of international exhibitions, of which our own at Chicago was a brilliant example, and it is desirable that the United States should make a worthy exhibit of American genius and skill and their unrivaled achievements in every branch of industry.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW NAVY.

The present naval force, especially in view of its increase by ships now under construction, while not as large as that of a few other powers, is a formidable force; its vessels are the very best type, and with the increase that should be made to it from time to time in the future, and careful attention to keeping it in a high state of efficiency and repair, it is well adapted to the necessities of the country.

The great increase of the navy which has taken place in recent years was justified by the requirements for national defense and has received public approbation. The time has now arrived, however, when this increase, to which the country is committed, should for a time take the form of increased facilities commensurate with the increase of our naval vessels. It is an unfortunate fact that there is only one dock on the Pacific coast capable of docking our largest ships, and that the latter has for the last six or seven months been under repair and therefore incapable of use. Immediate steps should be taken to provide three or four docks of this kind on the Atlantic coast, at least one on the Pacific coast and a floating dock on the gulf. This is the recommendation of a very competent board appointed to investigate the subject. There should also be ample provision for powder and projectiles and other munitions of war and for an increased number of officers and enlisted men. Some additions are also necessary to our navy yards for the repair and care of our larger number of vessels.

As there are now on the stocks five battleships of the largest class, which cannot be completed for a year or two, I concur with the recommendation of the secretary of the navy for an appropriation authorizing the construction of one battleship for the Pacific coast, where at present there is only one in commission and one under construction, while on the Atlantic coast there are three in commission and four under construction; and also that several torpedo boats be authorized in connection with our general system of coast defense.

ALASKA IN NEED OF ATTENTION.

The territory of Alaska requires the prompt and early attention of congress. The conditions now existing demand material changes in the laws relating to that territory. The great influx of population during the past summer and fall and the prospect of a still larger immigration in the spring will not permit us to longer neglect the extension of civil authority within the territory or postpone the establishment of a more thorough government.

A general system of public surveys has not yet been extended to Alaska and all entries thus far made in that district are upon special surveys. The act of congress extending to Alaska the mining laws of the United States contained the reservation that it should not be construed to put in force the general land laws of the country. By act approved March 3, 1891, authority was given for the entry of lands for townsite purposes and also for the purchase of not exceeding 160 acres then or thereafter occupied for purposes of trade and manufacture. The purpose of congress as thus far expressed has been that only such rights should apply to the territory as shall be specifically named.

It will be seen how much remains to be done for that vast and remote and yet promising portion of our country. Special authority was given to the president by the act of congress approved July 24, 1897, to divide that territory into two land districts and to designate the boundaries thereof, and to appoint registers and receivers of said land offices and the president was also authorized to appoint a surveyor general for the entire district. Pursuant to this authority, a surveyor general and receiver have been appointed with offices at Sitka. If in the ensuing year the conditions justify it, the additional land district authorized by law will be established, with an office at some point in the Yukon valley. No appropriation, however, was made for this purpose, and that is now necessary to be done for the two land districts into which the territory is to be divided.

I concur with the secretary of war in his suggestions as to the necessity for a military force in the territory of Alaska for the protection of persons and property. Already a small force consisting of twenty-five men with two officers, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Randall of the Eighth infantry, has been sent to St. Mich-

ael to establish a military post. At it is to the interest of the government to encourage the development and settlement of the country and its duty to follow up its citizens there with the benefits of legal machinery, I earnestly urge upon congress the establishment of such flexibility as will enable it to adjust itself to the future areas of greatest population.

The startling though possibly exaggerated reports from the Yukon river country of the probable shortage of food for the large number of people who are wintering there without the means of leaving the country are confirmed in such a measure as to justify bringing the matter to the attention of congress. Access to that country this winter can be had only by the passes from Dyea and vicinity, which is a most difficult and perhaps an impossible task. However, should these reports of the suffering of our fellow citizens be further verified, every effort at any cost should be made to carry them relief.

TROUBLES IN INDIAN TERRITORY.

For a number of years past it has been apparent that the conditions under which the five civilized tribes were established in the Indian territory under treaty provision with the United States, with the right of self-government and the exclusion of all white persons from within their borders, have undergone so complete a change as to render the continuance of the system thus inaugurated practically impossible. The total number of the five civilized tribes as shown by the last census, is 45,454, and this number has not materially increased, while the white population is estimated at from 200,000 to 250,000, which, by permission of the Indian government, have settled in the territory. The present area of the Indian territory contains 25,693,664 acres, much of which is very fertile land. The United States citizens residing in the territory, most of whom have gone there by invitation or with the consent of the tribal authorities, have made permanent homes for themselves. Numerous towns have been built in which from 500 to 5,000 white people now reside.

Valuable residence and business houses have been erected in many of them. Large business enterprises are carried on in which vast sums of money are employed, and yet these people, who have invested their capital in the development of the productive resources of the country, are without title to the land which they occupy and have no voice whatever in the government either of the nations or of the tribes. Thousands of their children who were born in the territory are of school age, but the doors of the schools of the nations are shut against them and what education they get is by private contribution. No provision for the protection of the life or property of these white citizens is made by the tribal governments and courts.

The secretary of the interior reports that leading Indians have absorbed great tracts of land to the exclusion of the common people and government by an Indian aristocracy has been practically established, to the detriment of the people. It has been found impossible for the United States to keep its citizens out of the territory, and the executive conditions contained in the treaties with these nations have for the most part become impossible of execution. Nor has it been possible for the tribal governments to secure to each individual Indian his full enjoyment in common with other Indians of the common property of the nations. Friends of the Indians have long believed that the best interests of the Indians of the five civilized tribes would be found in American citizenship, with all the rights and privileges which belong to that condition.

By section 16 of the act of March 3, 1897, the president was authorized to appoint three commissioners to enter into negotiations with the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Muskogee (or Creek), and Seminole nations, commonly known as the five civilized tribes of the Indian territory. Briefly, the purposes of the negotiations were to be: The extinguishment of tribal titles to any land now held by any and all such nations or tribes, either by cession of the same or some part thereof to the United States or by allotment and division of the same in severalty among the Indians of such nations or tribes respectively as may be entitled to the same, or by such other method as may be agreed upon between the several nations and tribes aforesaid or each of them with the United States, with a view to such adjustment upon the basis of justice and equity as may, with the consent of the said nations of Indians, so far as may be necessary, requisite and suitable to enable the ultimate creation of a state or states of the Union which shall embrace the lands within said Indian territory.

The commission met much opposition from the beginning. The Indians were very slow to act, and disinclination to meet with favor the proposition submitted to them. After more than three years after its organization the commission effected an agreement with the Choctaw nation alone. The Chickasaws, however, refused to agree to its terms, and as they have a common interests with the Choctaws in the lands of the said nations, the agreement with the latter could have no effect without the consent of the former. On April 23, 1897, the commission effected an agreement with both tribes—the Choctaws and the Chickasaws. This agreement, it is understood, has been ratified by the constituted authorities of the respective tribes or nations parties thereto, and only requires the ratification of congress to make it binding.

On the 27th of September, 1897, an agreement was effected with the Creek nation, but it is understood that the national council of said nation has refused to ratify the same.

Negotiations are yet to be had with the Cherokees, the most populous of the five civilized tribes, and with the Seminoles, the smallest in point of numbers and territory. The provision in the Indian appropriation act, approved June 10, 1896, makes it the duty of the commission to investigate and determine the rights of applicants for citizenship in the five civilized tribes. The commission is at present engaged in this work among the tribes, and has made

appointments for taking the census of these people up to and including the 30th of the present month.

Should the agreement with the Choctaws and Chickasaws be ratified by congress and should the other tribes fail to make an agreement with the commission, then it will be necessary that some legislation shall be had by congress, which, while just and honorable to the Indians, shall be equitable to the white people who have settled upon these lands by invitation of the tribal nations.

Hon. Harry L. Dawes, chairman of the commission, in a letter to the secretary of the interior, under date of October 11, 1897, says: "Individual ownership is, in their (commissioners') opinion, absolutely essential to any permanent improvement in present conditions, and lack of it is the root of nearly all of the evils which so grievously affect these people. Allotments by agreement is the only possible method, unless the United States courts are clothed with the authority to apportion these lands among the citizen Indians for whose use it was originally granted."

NEW QUARANTINE LAWS.

The recent prevalence of yellow fever in a number of cities and towns throughout the south has resulted in much disturbance to commerce and demonstrated the necessity of such amendments to our quarantine laws as will make the regulations of the national quarantine authorities paramount.

The secretary of the treasury, in the portion of his report relating to the operation of the marine hospital service, calls attention to the defects in the present quarantine laws, and recommends amendments thereto which will give the treasury department the requisite authority to prevent the invasion of epidemic diseases from foreign countries, and in times of emergency, like that of the past summer, will add to the efficiency of the sanitary measures for the protection of the people and at the same time prevent unnecessary restrictions of commerce. I concur in his recommendation.

In further effort to prevent the invasion of the United States by yellow fever the importance of the discovery of the exact cause of the disease, which up to the present time has been undetermined, has been obvious, and to this end a systematic bacteriological investigation should be made.

I therefore recommend that congress authorize the appointment of a commission by the president to consist of four expert bacteriologists, one to be selected from the medical officers of the Marine hospital service, one to be appointed from civil life, and one to be detailed from the medical officers of the army and one from the medical officers of the navy.

BID ON KANSAS PACIFIC.

The Union Pacific railway main line was sold under the decree of the United States court for the district of Nebraska on the 1st and 2d of November of this year. The amount due the government consisted of the principal of the subsidy bonds, \$27,236,512, and the accrued interest thereon, \$31,211,715, making the total indebtedness \$58,448,227.75. The bid at the sale covered the first mortgage lien and the entire mortgage claim of the government, principal and interest.

The sale of the subsidized portion of the Kansas Pacific line, upon which the government holds a second mortgage lien, has been postponed at the instance of the government, to December 16, 1897. The debt of this division of the Union Pacific railroad to the government, on November 1, 1897, was the principal of the subsidy bonds, \$6,302,000, and the unpaid and accrued interest thereon, \$1,526,803.33, making a total of \$7,828,803.33.

The sale of this road was originally advertised for November 4, but for the purpose of securing the utmost public notice of the event, it was postponed until December 16, and a second advertisement of the sale was made. By the decree of the court the upset price on the sale of the Kansas Pacific will be \$2,500,000 over all prior liens, costs and charges. If no other or better bid is made this sum is all the government will receive on its claim of nearly \$13,000,000. The government has no information as to whether there will be other bidders or a better bid than the maximum amount herein stated.

The question presented therefore is: Whether the government shall, under the authority given it by the act of March 3, 1897, purchase or redeem the road in the event that a bid is not made by private parties covering the entire government claim. To qualify the government to bid at the sale will require a deposit of \$900,000, as follows: In the government cause \$500,000, and in each of the first mortgage causes \$200,000, and in the latter the deposit must be in cash. Payments at the sale are as follows: Upon the acceptance of the bid, a sum which, with the amount already deposited, shall equal 15 per cent of the bid, the balance in installments of 25 per cent, thirty, forty and fifty days after the confirmation of the sale. The liens on the Kansas Pacific prior to that of the government on the 30th of July, 1897, principal and interest, amounted to \$7,281,048.11. The government, therefore, should it become the highest bidder, will have to pay the amount of the first mortgage lien.

the government should not permit the property to be sold at a price which will yield less than one-half of the principal of its debt and less than one-fifth of the entire debt, principal and interest, rather than accept less than its claim, should become a bidder and thereby the owner of the property. I submit it to congress for action.

CIVIL SERVICE.

The important branch of our government known as the civil service, the practical improvement of which has long been a subject of earnest discussion, has of late years received increased legislative and executive approval. During the past few months the service has been placed on a still firmer basis of business methods and personal merit. While the rights of our veteran soldiers to reinstatement in deserving cases has been asserted, dismissals for merely political reasons have been carefully guarded against, the examinations for admittance to the service enlarged and at the same time rendered less technical and more practical; and a distinct advance has been made by giving a hearing before dismissal upon all cases where incompetency is charged or demand made for the removal of officials in any of the departments. This order has been made to give the accused his right to be heard, but without in any way impairing the power of removal, which should always be exercised in cases of inefficiency and incompetency, and which is one of the vital safeguards of civil service reforms, preventing stagnation and deadwood and keeping every employe keenly alive to the fact that the security of his tenure depends not of favor but on his own tested and carefully watched record of service.

Much, of course, still remains to be accomplished before the system can be made reasonably perfect for our needs. There are places now in our classified lists which ought to be exempt and other not classified may properly be included. I shall not hesitate to exempt cases which I think have been improperly included in the classified service, or include those which in my judgment will best promote the public service. The system has the approval of the people and it will be my endeavor to uphold and extend it.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The library building, provided for by the act of congress, approved April 15, 1886, has been completed and opened to the public. I should be a matter of congratulation that through the foresight and munificence of congress the nation possesses this noble treasure house of knowledge. It is earnestly to be hoped that, having done so much toward the cause of education, congress will continue to develop the library in every phase of research to the end that it may be not only one of the most magnificent, but among the richest and most beautiful libraries in the world.

KEEP DOWN EXPENDITURES.

I am forced by the length of this message to omit many important references to affairs of the government, with which congress will have to deal at the present session. They are fully discussed in the departmental reports, to all of which I invite your earnest attention.

The estimates of the expenses of the government by the several departments find it an easy task to reduce the expenses of the government, it should be noted, will, I am sure, have your careful scrutiny. While congress may not encourage their increase. These expenses will, in my judgment, admit of a decrease in many branches of the government without injury to the public service. It is a commanding duty to keep the appropriations within the receipts of the government and thus avoid a deficit.

WILLIAM M'KINLEY.

Frenchmen Fight a Duel.

PARIS, Dec. 7.—A duel was fought between M. Millerand, the well-known socialist deputy and editor of the Petite Republique Francaise, and M. Joseph Reinach, conservative deputy for the district of Digne, a well-known journalist and author, editor of the Republique Francaise. The encounter grew out of some hot words exchanged in the chamber yesterday during the Dreyfus debate. Both men fired twice. Neither was hit, and their seconds declared that honor was satisfied.

A Formidable Force.

BERLIN, Dec. 7.—When the German reinforcements, numbering twenty-three officers and 1,400 men, arrived at Kiau Chau bay, for which point, as already said, they will soon set out, they will bring the total German force up to 4,566 men, the largest body Germany has ever sent beyond European waters. The admiralty reports that the various foreign warships have entered the bay to watch Germany's progress, and it is expected that Admiral von Diederich will protest vigorously against such an attempt.

Surgeon General's Report.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Surgeon-General Wyman of the marine hospital service, has submitted his annual report to Secretary Gage. It shows that during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1897, the total number of patients treated at the hospital and the dispensaries connected with the service was 51,774—673 in excess of those treated during the previous fiscal year. Expenditures were \$536,653, which is \$1,000 less than the previous year. The number of immigrants inspected at the various posts aggregated 232,147.

Currency Legislation.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 4.—Senator Frye, who arrived in Washington today, expressed the opinion that on account of political complexion of the senate it would be impossible to secure currency legislation such as would satisfy the republican party at the approaching session, in which Senator Allison coincided.

Cabinet Crisis Imminent.

ROME, Dec. 6.—In consequence of the action of the chambers in amending the bill dealing with army promotions against the advice of the minister of war, General Pelloux, it is reported that the minister has tendered his resignation. The opinion prevails in some quarters that should General Pelloux resign his portfolio the entire cabinet would fall.

The floating treasury debt was increased during the month of November by 23,500,000 pesetas.