Receive Public Attention.

In Memory of Hendricks WASHINGTON, Dec. S .- To the Congress of the United States: Your assembiing is clouded by a sense of public bereavement caused by the recent and sudden death of Thomas A. Hendricks, vice-president of the United States. His distinguished public services, his complete integrity and devotion to every strip of land separating the Atlantic from daty and his personal virtues will find fa- the Pacific has been repeatedly manivorable record in his country's history. Ample and repeated proofs of the esteem and confidence in which he was held by his countrymen were manifested by his gotiated with Nicaragua a treaty for the election to an office of the most import- construction by, and at the sole cost of ant and highest dignity, and at length, full of years and honors, he has been laid at rest amidst general sorrow and bene-

## He Makes His Bow

The constitution, which requires those chosen to legislate for the people to annually meet in the discharge of their solemn trust, also requires the president to give to congress information of the state of the union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall deem necessary and expedient. At the threshold of a compliance with these constitutional directions, it is well for us to bear in mind that our usefulness to the as the concomitant of our civilization day people's interests will be promoted by a | by day is being urged onward by those constant appreciation of the scope and character of our respective duties as they relate to federal legislation. While the executive may recommend such measures | Our duty in the present instructs us to as he shall deem expedient, the responsibility for legislative action must and should rest upon those selected by the people to make their laws. A contemplation of the grave and responsible functions assigned to the executive branches of the gevernment under the constitution will disclose the partitions of power between our respective departments and their necessary independence, and also the need for the exercise of all the power entrusted to each in that spirit of comity and co-operation which is essential to the proper fulfillment of the patriotic obligations which rest upon us | irty of the state where such interests he. as faithful servants of the people. The jealous watchfulness of our constituencies, the two oceans by means of a canal is to great and small, supplements their suf- be encouraged, I am of the opinion that frage, and by the tribunal thus established every public servant will be judged.

It is gratifying to announce that the relations of the United States with all foreign powers continue to be friendly-Maintenance of good faith in all our engagements, the avoidance of complications | tween the valley of the Mississippi and with other nations, and a consistent and amicable attitude toward the strong and weak alike, furnish proof of a political disposition which renders professions of rier dividing the two greatest ma-

the long dormant question of the Falk- | become a point of irritation of hostilities land Island by claiming from the United | or a prize for warlike ambition. An en-States indemnity for their loss attributed | gagement combining the construction, to the action of the commander of the ownership and operation of such a work slocp of war "Lexington" in breaking by this government with an offensive up a piratical colony on those islands in 1831, and their subsquent occupation by Great Britain. In view of the ample | bilities and rights we would share, is, in justification for the act of the ... Lexing- | my judgment, inconsistent with such ton" and the derelict condition of the island before and after the alleged oc- and would, moreover, entail measures cupation by Argentine colonists, this for its realization beyond the scope of

A question has arisen with the govern- firmed the wisdom and foresight of those ment of Austria-Hungary touching the earlier administrations which, long representation of the United States at before the conditions of mari-Vienna. Having under my constitutional time zen of unimpeached probity and compement of a vital p inciple of our government. The Austro-Hungarian govern-Keiley as the envoy of the United States, and that gentleman has since resigned his commission, leaving the post vacant. I have made no new nomination, and Vienna are now in the care of the secretary of legation as Charge d' Affaires ad

of Guatemala to consolidate the several contest between our neighboring states offices in deprecation of war and to pro- acting as a protection to the public mote peace and concord among the belligerents, and by such counsel contributed importantly to the restoration of tranquil- and power in the hands of vast corporaity in that locality.

demanded of this government at the beginning of this administration the employ- | transit and this can only be accomment of an armed torce to fulfill its guar- plished by making the uses of the route antee under the thirty-fifth article of the open to all nations and subject to the treaty of 1846. In order to keep the ambition and warlike necessities of none. transit open across the Isthmus of Pana- | The drawings and report of a recent surma des.rous of exercising only the pow- vey of the Nicaragua canal route made ers expressly reserved to us by the treaty, | by Chief Engineer Menscal will be comand rindful of the rights of Colombia, | municated for your information. the forces sent to the isthmus were instructed to confine their action to "posiefficiently preventing the interrupted or embarrassed." The execution of this delicate and rein aid of the sovereignity of Colombia. tion. The powerful and successful fulfillment of its duty by this government was highly | China is fully sustained in the applicaappreciated by the government of Col- tion of the acts lately passed to execute ombia, and has been followed by ex- the treaty of 1880, restrictive of the impressions of its satisfaction, and of high migration of Chinese laborers into the praise of the officers and men engaged in this service. The restoration of peace on the isthmus by the re-establishment | the executive to remedy, and calling for of the constituted government there, judicial determination. being thus accomplished, the forces of the United States were withdrawn.

Pending these occurrences. a question of much importance was presented by in the western states and territories is, decrees of the Colombian government despite this restrictive legislation, far proclaiming the closure of certain ports then in the pands of in-urgents, and de- from being satisfactory. The recent outclaring vessels held by the revolutionists | break in Wyoming territory, where num- | factory understanding.

bra

fre

7:30 p. m., "Responsibility."

to be partial and liable to capture by any bers of unoffending Chinamen indisputapower. To neither of these propositions bly within the protection of the treaties could the United States assent. An effective closure of ports not in the possession of the government, but held by the hostile partisans, could not be recognized. Neither could the vessels of insurgents against the legitimate sovereignty be deemed hostus humani generis withn the precepts of international law. whatever might be the defination and penalty of their acts under the municipal laws of the state against whose authority they were in revolt. The denial by this government of the Colombian propositions did not. however, imply the dmission of a belligerent status on the part of the insurgents. The Colombian government has expressed its willingness to attend negotiation conventions for the adjustment by arbitration of claims by foreign citizens arising out of the destruction of the city of Aspinwall by the insurrectionary forces.

Inter-Oceanic Transportation. The interest of the United States in a' practicable transit for ships across the fested during the last half century. My immediate predecessor caused to be nethe United States, of a canal through Nicaraguan territory and it was laid before the senate. Pending the action of that body thereon, I withdrew the treaty for re-examination. Attentive consideration of its provisions leads me to withhold it from re-submission to the senate. Maintaining, as I do, position in a line of presidents from Washington's day, who have prescribed enlarging and entangling alliances with foreign states, I do not favor a policy of acquisition of new and distant territory, or the incorporation of remote interests with our own. The laws of progress are vital and organic, and we must be conscious of that irresistible tide of commercial expansion which increasing facilities of production, transportation and communication to which steam and electricity have given birth. address ourselves mainly to the development of the vast resources of the great area committed to our charge, and to the cultivation of the arts of peace within our borders. We should be jealously alert in preventing the American hemisphere from being involved in the political problems and complications of distant governments, therefore I am unable to propositions involving paramount privileges of ownership or right outside of our own territory, when counted with absolute and unlimited engagements to defead the territorial integ-While the general project of connecting any scheme to that end to be considered with favor should be free from the fea-The Tehuantepec route is declared by engineers of the highest repute and by competent scientists to afford an entirely practical transit for vessels and cargo by means of a ship railway from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

our position after nearly a century of The obvious advantages of such a route, successful constitutional government. if feasible, over others further removed from the lines of traffic between England and the Pacific, and particularly be-South America, are deserving of consideration. Whatever highway may constructed across the good will unnecessary. There are no riting areas of the world, must be for questions of difficulty pending with any | the world's benefit, a trust for mankind, to be removed from the chance of domi-The Argentine government has revived | nation by any single power. It must not and defensive alliance for its protection with the foreign states whose responsidedication to universal and neutral use,

our national policy or present means.

The lapse of years has abundantly con-

intercourse were changed prerogative appointed an estimable citi- and enlarged by the progress of the age, proclaimed the vital need of inter-oceanic tence as minister at that court, the gov- | traffic across the commercial isthmus and ernment of Austria-Hungary invited this | consecrated it in advance to the common government to cognizance of certain ex- use of mankind by their positive declaraceptions based upon allegations against tions, and through their formal obligathe personal acceptability of Mr. Keiley, tion of treaties. Toward such realizathe appointed envoy, asking that, in tion the efforts of my administration will view thereof, the appointment should be | be applied, ever bearing in mind the withdrawn. The reasons advanced were principles on which it must rest, and such as could not be acquiesced in with- which were declared in no out violation of my oath of office and the uncertain tones by Mr. Cass, who, while precepts of the constitution, since they secretary of state in 1858, announced necessarily involved a limitation in favor | that "What the United States want in of a foreign government upon the right | Central America next to the happiness of of selection by the executive, and re- its people is the security and neutrality quired such an application of a religious of the inter-oceanic routes which lead test as a qualification for office under the through it." The construction of three United States as would have resulted in trans-continental lines of railway, all in the practical disfranchisement of a large | successful operation, wholly within our class of our citizens and the abandon- territory, and uniting the Atlantic and Japan. Pacific oceans, has been accompanied by results of a most interes ing and imment finally decided not to receive Mr. pressive nature, and has created new conditions, not only in the routes of comand necessarily increase our interests in. the interests of this government at any trans-isthmian route which may be opened and employed for the ends of peace and traffic, or, in other contingencies, for uses inimical to both. Trans-Early in March last war broke out in portation is a factor in the cost of com-Central America, caused by the attempt | modities scarcely second to that of their production and weighs as heavily upon the states into a single government. In this consumer. Our existence already has the United States forbore to interfere the competition between land-carriage actively, but lent the aid of their friendly | and water-carriage fully developed, each |

against the tendencies of monoply, which is inherent in the consolidation of wealth tions. These suggestions may serve Emergencies growing out of the civil to emphasize what I war in the United States of Colombia, already said on the score of the necessity of a neutralization of any inter-oceanic

Foreign Affairs Resumed. The claims of citizens of the United transit and its accessories from being States for losses by reason of the late military operations of Chili in Peru and sponsible task necessarily involved in Bolivia are the subject of negotiation police control where the local authority for a claims convention with Chili, prowas temporarily powerless, but always viding for their submission to arbitra-

The harmony of our relations with United States. Individual cases of hardship have occurred beyond the power of

The Chinese in the United States. The condition of the Chinese question

and the law were murdered by a mob. and the still more recent threatened outbreak of the same character in Washington territory, are still fresh in the minds of all, and there is apprehension lest the bitterness of feeling against the Mongolian race on the Pacific slope may find vent All the power of this government should be exerted to maintain the amplest good faith toward China in the treatment of these men, and the inflexible sternness of the law in bringing the wrong-doers to justice should be insisted upon. Every effort has been made by this government to prevent these violent outbreaks, and to aid the representatives of China in their investigation of the outrages, and it is but just to say that they are traceable to the lawlessness of men not citizens of the United States, engaged in competition with Chinese laborers. Race large part of our domain, jeopardizing our peace and the good relationship we try to maintain with China. The admitted right of a government to prevent the influx of elements hostile to its internal peace and security may not be questioned, even where there is no treaty stipulation on the subject. That the exclusion of Chinese labor is demanded in other countries where like conditions prevail, is strong evidence of the righteousness of the policy. In the dominion of Canada immigration is now regulated by laws more exclusive than our own. If existing laws are inadequate to compass the end in view, I shall be prepared to give earnest consideration to any further remedial measures within the treaty limits which the wisdom of congress may Congo and Other Lands.

The independent state of the Congo has been organized as a government under the sovereignty of his majesty, the king of the Belgiaus, who assumes its chief magistracy in his personal character only, without making the new state a that a benighted region, owing all it has of quickening civilization to the beneficence of the philanthropic spirit of this and security of its benevolent supervision. The action taken by this government last year in being the first to recognize the flag of the international association of the Congo, has been followed by formal recognition of the new nationality which succeeds to its sovereign powers. A conference of delegates of the principal commercial nations was held at Berlin last winter to discuss methods whereby the Congo basin might be kept open to the world's trade. Delegates attended on behalf of the United States on the understanding that their part should be merely deliberative, without imparting to the results any binding character, so far as the United States were concerned. This reserve was due to the indisposition of the government to share in any disposal by an international congress of jurisdictional questions in remote foreign territories. The results of the conference were embodied in a formal act of the nature of an international covenant which laid down certain obligations purporting to be binding on the signatories, subject to ratification within one year. Notwithstanding the reservation under which the delegates of the United states atthe general act in the same manner as those of the plenipotentiaries of other governments, thus making the United States appear without reserve or qualification as signatory to a joint international engagement, imposing upon the signers the conservation of the territorial integrity of distant regions, where we have no established interests or control. This government does not, however, regard its reservation of liberty of action in the premises as at all impaired, and holds that an engagement to share in the obligation of of the Congo is an alliance whose responsibilities we are not in a position to as-Congo country and his recommendations of an expensive survey of the whole. for the establishment of commercial sabmitted for your consideration.

The commission appointed by my predecessor last winter to visit the Central mercial relations of the United States tnerewith has submitted reports which application made by the Corean government to be allowed to employ American expenses. officers as military instructors, to which ! the concurrent sanction of China and

The arrest and imprisonment of Julio our part, Mr. Santos was, after an al- him at aberty without explanation. upon by our own.

The amount adjudged by the late port. French and American Claims commisgovernment.

be laid before you.

34-2

relating to the domination of the Caroline the question of ownership involves juris- will be adjusted. diction of matters affecting the status of similar lawless demonstration. the proprietary issues raised between tween us and that country will terminate powers to both of which the United States are friendly, this government zens carrying on a peaceful commerce or Siberia, bearing the testimonials voted there domiciled, and has so informed the by congress to those who generously governments of Spain and Germany. The marked good will between the United States and Great Britain has been

and British North America. Fishing in- nouncement. terests being intimately related to the monarchy, should have the advantage to the fishing rights will be submitted.

which was generously given by Her Majesty's government to aid in the relief of the Greely expedition, was, after the successful attainment of that humane purpose, returned to Great Britain in ursuance of the authority conferred by the act of March 3, 1885.

The inadequacy of the existing engagements for extradition between the United States and Great Britain has been long ernment. While there is a question as to apparent. The tenth article of the the sufficiency of the notice of the tertreaty of 1842, one of the earliest com- mination given, yet as the commercial pacts in this regard entered into by us, rights of our citizens in Turkey come unstipulated for surrender in respect of Other crimes no less inimical to the social welfare should be embraced. | inconvenience can result from the assent and the procedure of extradition brought of this government to the revisions of the in harmony with present international Ottoman tariffs, on which the treaty treaty of extradition have been pending key may be affected by the porte's nonsince 1870, and I entertain strong hopes | acquiescence in the right of expatriation,

agencies on the African coast are also Hayti having been quelled, the govern- utes, all funds held in trust by the and South American countries and report | there, and the claims of certain citizens | stocks of the United States bearing a on the methods of enlarging the com- of the United States will be in this man- rate of interest not less than 5 per cent

will be laid before you. No opportunity citizens of the United States. Pelletier interest, the letter of the statute is at has been ommitted to testify the friendli- and Lazare, have been disposed of by present inapplicable, but its spirit is subness of this government toward Corea, arbitration and an award, 12 favor of served by continuing to make investwhose entrance into the family of treaty each claimant, has been made, which by ments of this nature in current stocks powers the United States were the first | the terms of the engagement is final. It | bearing the highest interest now paid. to recognize. I regard with favor the remains for congress to provide for the . The statute, however, makes no proviplayment of the stipulated molety of the sion for the disposal of such accretions.

United States, was sentenced to impris- funds.

congress, has been duly paid the French of our similarity of institutions and be liable under the laws of the empire. ed to profit ble commerce, create from federal naturalization. The temporate and just attitude taken by new markets, and furnish re-this government with regard to this class venues to other isolated communities. States with their immediate neighbors

Mexico at Tehenancepec. With the islands, has attracted the attention of this | gradual recovery of Peru from the effects government by reason of extensive of her late disastrous conflict with Chili. interests of American citizens hav- and with the restoration of civil authoring grown up in those parts during ity in that distracted country, it is hoped the last thirty-nine years, and because that pending war claims of our citizens

In conformity with notification given our own citizens under civil and criminal by the government of Peru, the existing law. Whilst standing wholly aloof from | treaties of commerce and extradition be-

March 31, 1886. Our good relationship with Russia conexpects that nothing in the present con- tinues. An officer of the navy detailed tention will unfavorably affect our citi- for the purpose is now on his way to

succored the survivors of the unfortunate "Jeannette" expedition. It is gratifying to advert to the cormaintained during the past year. The diality of our intercourse with Spain. termination of the fishing clauses of the The long pending claim of the owners of treaty of Washington in pursuance of the the ship "Masonie" for loss suffered joint resolution of March 3, 1883, must | through the admitted dereliction of the have resulted in the abrupt cessa'ion on Spanish authorities in the Phillippine prejudice is the chief factor in originating the 1st of July of this year, in Islands, has been adjusted by arbitration these disturbances, and it exists in a the midst of their ventures, of the and an indemnity awarded. The princioperations of citizens of the United ples of arbitration in such cases to which States engaged in fishing in Brit- the United States has long and consistish-American waters, but for a di- ently adhered, thus receive a fresh and plomatic understanding reached with gratifying confirmation. Other questions Her Majesty's government in June last, with Spain have been disposed of or whereby assurance was obtained that no are under diplomatic consideration with interruption of those operations should a view to just and honorable settlement. take place during the current season. The operation of the commercial agree-In the interest of the good neighborhood | ment with Spain of January 2d and Febof the commercial intercourse of adjacent ruary 13, 1884, has been found inadecommunities, the question of the North quate to the commercial need of the American fisheries is one of much im- United States and the Spanish portance. Following out the intimation Antilles, and the terms of the agreegiven by me when the extensiary arrange- ment are subjected to conflictment above described was negotiated, I ing interpretations in those Islands. recommended that the congress provide Negotiations have been instituted at for the appointment of a commission in | Madrid for a full treaty not open to the which the governments of the United objections, and in the line of the general States and Great Britain shall be respec- policy touching the neighborly intertively represented, charged with the con- course of proximate communities, to sideration and settlement upon a just, which I elsewhere advert, and aiming, equitable and honorable basis, of the en- moreover, at the removal of existing tire question of the tishing rights of the burdens and annoying restrictions; and two governments and their respective although a satisfactory termination is citizens on the coast of the United States | promised I am compelled to delay its an-

An international conference was heid general questions dependent upon con- at Berne in September, on the invitation tiguity and intercourse, consideration of the Swiss government. The envoy of dependency on Belgium. It is fortunate | thereof in all their equities might also | the United States attended as a delegate, properly come within the purview of such | but refrained from committing the govcommission, and the fullest latitude of | erament to the results, even by signing expression on both sides should be per- the recommendatory protocol adopted. mitted. The correspondence in relation | The interesting and important subject of international copyright has been before The Arctic exploring steamer "Alert," | you for several years. Action is certainly desirable to effect the object in view. and while there may be a question as to the relative advantage of treating it by legislation or by specific treaty, the matured views of the Berne conference cannot fail to aid your consideration of the subject. The termination of the commercial

treaty of 1862 between the United States

and Turkey has been sought by that gov-

der the favored national guarantees of limited number of offences, the prior treaty of 1830, and as equal treatment is admitted by the porte, no Negotiations with Her powers have been invited to join. Majesty's government for an enlarged Questions concerning our citizens in Turthat a satisfactory result may be soon at- and by the imposition of religious tests as a condition of residence, in which The frontier line between Alaska and this government cannot concur. The British Columbia, as defined by the treaty | United States must hold in their intertended, their signatures were attached to of cession with Russia, follows the de- course with every power that the status markation assigned in a prior treaty be- of their citizens is to be respected, and tween Great Britain and Russia. Modern equal civil privileges accorded to them exploration discloses that this ancient without regard to creed, and affected by boundary is impracticable as a geograph- no considerations save those growing out ical fact. In the unsettled condition of of dominiban return to the land of origithat region, the question has lacked im- nal allegiance, or of unfulfilled personal portance, but the discovery of mineral obligations which may survive under muwealth in the territory which the line is nicipal laws after such voluntary return. supposed to traverse admonishes us that The negotiation with Venezuela relathe time has come when an accurate tive to the rehearing of the awards of knowledge of the boundary is needful the mixed commission constituted under to avert jurisdictional complications, the treaty of 1866, was resumed, in view I recommend, therefore, that provision of the recent acquiescence of the Venebe made for a preliminary reconnoisance | zuelan envoy in the principal point adby officers of the United States, to the | vanced by this government, that the efend of acquiring more precise informa- feets of the old treaty could only be set tion on the subject. I have invited Her aside by the operation of a new convensume. I abstain from asking the sane- Majesty's government to consider with tion. A result substantially in accord tion of the senate to that act. The cor- us the adoption of a more convenient with the advisory suggestions contained respondence will be laid before you and | boundary to be established by meridian | in the joint resolution of March 3, 1883, the instructive and interesting report of or other observation, or by known geo- has been agreed upon, and will shortly the agent sent by this government to the graphical features, without the necessity be submitted to the senate for ratifica-

The late insurrectionary movements in Under section 3659 of the revised statment of that republic has made prempt United States, and the annual interest provision for adjudicating the losses suf- accruing thereon, when not otherwise fered by foreigners because of hostilities required by treaty, are to be invested in per ansum. There being now no pro-The long pending claims of the two curable stocks paying so high a rate of It being contrary to the general rule of A question arose with Hayti during the this government to allow interest on the assent of congress becomes necessary, past year by reason of the exceptional claims, I recommend the repeal of the and I am happy to say this request has treatment of an American citizen, Mr. Van- provision in question, and the disposibokkeien, a resident of Port Au Prince, | tion, under a uniform rule, of the present who, on suit by creditors residing in the accumulations; from investment of trust

R. Santos, a citizen of the United States, onment, and under the operation of Hay- The inadequacy of existing legislation by the authorities of Ecuador, gave rise | tian statute was denied relief secured to | touching citizenship and naturalization to a contention with that government in a native Haytian. This government as- demand a your consideration. While merce, but in political geography, which his right to be released or to have serted his treaty right to equal treatment recognizing the right of expatriation, no powerfully affect our relations toward a speedy and impartial trial with an- with natives of Payti in all suits at law. statu or provision exists providing counced charges and with all guar- | Our contention was denied by the Hay- meur | for renouncing citizenship by an antees of defense stipulated by tian government which, however, while American, native-born or naturalized, treaty, was insisted upon by us. still professing to maintain the ground nor for terminating and vacating im-After an elaborate correspondence and taken against Mr. Vanbokkelen's right, proved acquisition of citizenship. Even repeated and earnest representations on terminated the controversy by setting a fraudulent decree of naturalization cannot now be cancelled. The privilege and leged trial and conviction, eventually in- An international conference to consider franchise of American citizenship should cluded in a general degree of amnesty | the trains of arresting the spread of be granted with care, and extended to and pardoned by the Equadorian execu- cholers and other epidemic diseases was those only who intend in good faith to proven the great importance of having tive and released, leaving the question held at Rome in May last, and adjourned assume its duties and responsibilities of his American citizenship denied by to meet again on farther notice. An ex- when attaining its privileges. It should the Equadorian government, but insisted | pert delegate on behalf of the United | be withheld from those who merely go States has attended and will submit re- through the forms of naturalization with the intent of escaping the duties of their Our relations with Mexico continue to original allegiance without taking upon sion to be due from the United States to be most cordial as befits those of neight themselves those of their new status, or French claimants on account of injuries | bors between whom the strongest ties of | who may require the rights of American suffered by them during the war of seces- friendship and commercial intimacy exist, citizenship for no other than a hostile sion having been appropriated by the last | as the natural and growing consequence | purpose toward their original government. These evils geographical propinquity. The reloca- had many flagrant illustrations. The act of February 25, 1885, provided tion of the boundary line between the I regard with favor the suggestion put for a preliminary search of the records of United States and Mexico eastward of forth by one of my predecessors, that the French prize court for evidence bear- the Rio Grande under the convention of provision may be made for a central ing on the claims of American citizens July 29, 1882, has been unavoidably de- bureau of record of the decrees of naturalagainst France for spoliations committed layed, but I apprehend no difficulty in ization granted by the various courts prior to 1801. The duty has been per- | securing a prolongation of the period of | throughout the United States now informed, and the report of the agent will its accomplishment. The lately con-vested with that power. The rights cluded commercial treaty with Mexico which spring from domicile in the United I regret to say that the restrictions still awaits the stipulated legislation to States, especially when coupled with a upon the importation of our pork into carry its provisions into effect, for which declaration of intention to become a cit-France, notwithstanding the abundant one year's additional time has been se- izen, are worthy of definition by statute. demonstration of the absence of sanitary cured by a supplementary article signed. The stranger coming hither with intent danger in its use, are continued, but I in February last and since ratified on to remain, establishing his residence entertain strong hopes that, with a better both sides. As this convention, so im- in our midst, contributing to the genunderstanding of the matter, this vexa- portant to the commercial welfare of the eral welfare, and by his voluntary act tious prohibition will be removed. It two adjoining countries, has oeen con- declaring his purpose to assume the rewould be pleasing to be able to say as stitutionally confirmed by the treaty- sponsibility of citizenship thereby gains much with respect to Germany. Austria making branch, I express the hope that an inchoate status which legislation may and other countries where such food legislation to make it effective may not properly define. The laws of certain products are absolutely excluded without be long delayed. The large influx of states and territories admit a domiciled present prospect of reasonable change. | capital and enterprise to Mexico from the | alien to the local franchise, conferring The interpretation of our existing United States continues to aid in the de- on him the rights of citizenship to a detreaties of naturalization by Germany velopment of the resources and in aug- gree which places him in the anomalous during the past year has attracted atten- menting the material well-being of our position of being a citizen of a state and tion by reason of an apparent tendency sister republic; lines of railway, pene- yet not of the United States within the on the part of the imperial government to trating to the neart and capital of the purvisions of federal and international extend the scope of the residential re- country bringing the two peoples into laws. It is important, within the scope strictions to which returning naturalized mutually beneficial intercourse and en- of national legislation, to define this citizens of German origin are asserted to larged facilities of transit, add- right of alien domicile as distinguished

of questions will doubties, lead to a satistic large already adverted to the suggested and with important areas of traffic near productions of American artists residing coinage can claim your attention. Since abroad, and who receive gratuitously adverted to the suggested our shores suggest especially liberal in-

The dispute of Germany and Spain, narrow formation of the territory of tercourse between them and us. Following the treaty of 1883 with Mexico, which rested on the basis of reciprocal exemption from customs duties, other similar treaties were initiated by my predecessors. Recognizing the need of less obstructed traffic with Cuba and Porto Rico, and met by the desire of Spain to succor languishing interest in the antilles, steps were taken to attain those ends by a treaty of commerce. A similar treaty was afterwards signed by the dominion republic. Subsequently overtures were made by Her Britainic majesty's government for a like mutual extenion of commercial intercourse with the British West Indian and South American independencies, out without result.

On taking office I wi hdrew for reexecution the treaties signed with Spain and Santo Domingo then pending before the Senate. The result has been to satisfy me of the inexpediency of entering into engagements of this character not covering the entire traffic. These treaties contemplated the surrender by the United States of large revenues for inadequate considerations. Upon sugar alone duties were surrendered to an amount far exceeding all the advantages offered in exchange. Even were it intended to relieve our consumers, it was evident that so long as the exemption but partially covered our importation, such relief would be illusory. To relinquish a revenue so essential seemed highly improvident at a time when new and large drains upon the treasury were contemplated. Moreover, embarrassing questions would have arisen under the favored nation clauses of treaties with other nations. As a further objection it is evident that tariff regulation by treaty diminishes that independent control over its own revenues which is essential for the safety and welfare of any government. An emergency calling for an increase of taxation may at any time arise, and no engagement with a foreign power should exist to hamper the action of the government. By the fourteenth section of the ship-

ping act approved June 26, 1884, certain reductions and contingent exemptions from tonnage-dues were made as to vessels entering ports of the United States from any foreign port in North and Central America, the West India Islands, the Bahamas and Bermudas, Mexico and the isthmus, as far as Aspinwall and Panama. The governments of Belgium. Denmark, Germany, Portugal Sweden and Norway have asserted, under the favored-nation clause in their treaties with the United States, a claim to like treatment in respect to vessels coming to the teat the privileges granted by the act are purely geographical, applying to any vessel of any foreign power that may choose to engage in traffic between this country and any port within the defined zone, and that no warrant exists under the favored-nation clause, for the extension of the privileges in question to vessels sailing to this country from ports outside the limitation of the act. Undoubtedly the relations of commerce with our near neighbors, line difficult to be guarded, and who find in our country, and equally offer to us natural markets, demand special and considerate treatment. It rests with congress to consider what legislative action | Provisions ..... may increase the facilities of intercourse which contiguity makes natural and desirable.

More Money for Diplomacy.

I earnestly urge that congress recast the

appropriations for the maintenance of

the diplomatic and consular service on a footing commensurate with the importportance of our national interests. At every post where a representative is necessary, the salary should be so graded as to permit him to live with comfort. With the assignment of adequate salaries, the so-called notarial extra official fees which our officers abroad are now permitted to treat as personal perquisites should be done away with. Every act requiring the certification and seal of the officer would be taxable at schedule rates, and the fee therefor returned to the treasury. By restoring these revenues to the public use, the consular service would be self-supporting, even with a liberal increase of the present low salaries. The further prerention of abuses, a system of consular inspection should be instituted. The appointment of a limited number of secretaries of legation at large, to be assigned to duty wherever necessary, and in particular for temporary service at missions which from any cause may be without a head, should also be authorized. I favor also authorization for the details of officers of the regular service as -military or naval attaches at legations. Some forunion of consular with diplomatic functions. Italy and Venezuela will only receive the appointee in one of his two capacities, but this does not prevent the the responsibilities of an officer whose duties he cannot discharge. The super-added title of consul-general should be abandoned at all missions. I deem it expedient that a well-devised measure for the reorganization of the extra territorial courts in Oriental counwhich labors under the disadvantage of lumbering judicial and executive functions in the same office. In several Oriental countries generous offers have been made of premises for housing the legations of the United States. A grant of land for that purpose was made some years since by Japan, and has been referred to in the annual messages of my predecessors. The Siamese government has made a gift to the United States of commodious quarters in Bangkok. In Corea the late minister was permitted to purchase a building from the government for legation use. In China the premises rented for the legation are favored as to local

The Big Fair. The world's industrial exposition held sistance of the federal government, attracted a large number of foreign exhibis, and proved of great value in spreadwide knoweldge of the various manufactures and productions of the country, and their availability in exchange for the production of those regions.

Ars Est Longs. Past congresses have had under consideration the advisability of abolishing the discrimination made by the tariff laws in favor of the works of American artists. The odium of the policy which subjects to a high rate of duty the paintings of foreign artists and exempts the

vantages and instruction, is visited upor our citizens engaged in art culture in Europe, and has caused them, with practical unanimity, to favor the abolition of such an ungracious distinction. and in their interest and for other obvious reasons I strongly recommend it.

The Public Treasury. report of the secretary of the treasury fully exhibits the condition of the public finances and of the several branches of government connected with his department. The suggestions of the secretary relating to the practical operations of this important department, and his recommendations regarding simplification and economy. particularly in the work of collecting customs duties, are especially urged upon the attentio i of congress.

The ordinary receipts from all sources for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1885. were \$322,690,706.3\$. Of this sum \$181,471,939 34 was received from customs andd \$112,498,725.54 from internal revenue. The total receipts as given above weree \$24,829,163.54 1 ss than those for the year ending June 30, 1884. This diminution embraced a falling off of \$13,595,550.42 in the receipts from customs and 89,687,346,97 in the receipts from internal revenue.

The total ordinary expenditures of the government for the fiscal year were \$260,226,935,50, leaving a surplus in the treasury at the close of the year of \$63,-463,771.27. This is \$40,929,854.32 less than the surplus reported at the close of the previous year. The expenditures are classified as follows: 

Foreign intercourse 5,439,609.11 Indians 6,552,494.63 Pensions..... 56, 102, 267.49 Navy 16,021,079.60 Interest on public debt 51,386,256.47 District of Columbia 3,429,650 95 Misceilaneous 54,728,654.21

The amount paid on the public debt during the fiscal year ended June 30. 1885, was \$45,993,235,43, and there has been paid since that date and up to Nov. 1, 1885, the sum of \$369,828, leaving the amount of the debt at the last named date \$1,514,475,860.47. There was, however, at that time in the treasury applicable to the general purposes of the government the sum of \$66,818,292,38. The total receipts for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 1886, ascertained to Oct. 1, 1885, and estimated for the remainder of the year, are \$315,000,000, The expenditures ascertained and esti-United States from their home mated for the same time are \$245,000 .parts. This government, however, holds | 000, leaving a surplus at close of the year estimated at \$70,000,000. The value of exports from the United States to foreign countries during the last fiscal year was as follows: Foreign merchandise........... 15,506,809 00 

> Some of the principal exports with their values and the percentage they respectively bear to the total expertation are

Wood and its manufactures .. 21,464,622 2 95 Our imports during the year were as

Merchandise,......\$379,580,653 80 Gold...... 26,641,898 00

The following are given as prominent articles of imports during the year, with their values and with the percentage they bear to the importation: Value. Perc't

ilk and its manufactures ... 40,330,002 6,99 Fax, bemp jute and theirm'fs 32,854,874 5.69 Cotton and its manufactures... 28,152,001 4.88

lected, 70 per cent was collected from the following articles of import: Sugar and moiasses 29, wool and its manufactures 15, silk and its manufactures 8, iron and steel and their manufactures 7, cotton manufactures 6, flax, hemp and jute and their manufactures 5.

In Favor of Protection.

The fact that our revenues are in excess of the actual needs of an economical administration of the government, justifirs a reduction in the amount exacted eign governments to not recognize the from the people for its support. Our government is but the means established by the will of a free people, by which certain principles are applied which they requirement of a bond and submission to have adopted for their benefit and protection, and it is never better administered and its true spirit is never better observed than when the people's taxation for its support is scrupulously limited to the actual necessity of expenditure, and distributed according to just and equitable plan. The proposition tries should replace the present system. with which we have to deal is the reduction of the revenue received by the government, and indirectly paid by the people from customs duties. The question of free trade is not involved, nor is there now any occasion for the general discussion of the wisdom or expediency of a protective system. Justice and fairness dietate that in any modification of our present laws relating to revenue, the industries and interests which have been encouraged by such laws, and in which our citizens have large investments, should not be ruthlessly injured or destroyed. We should also deal with the subject in such manner as to protect the interests of American labor, which is the capital of charges. At Tangiers the house occupied our workingmen. Its stability and proper by our representative has been for many remuneration furnish the most justifiable rears the property of this government, pretext for a protective policy. Within having been given for that purpose in these limitations, a certain reduction 1822 by the suitan of Morocco; I approve should be made in our customs revenues. the suggestion heretofore made that, in The amount of such reduction having view of the conditions of life and adminbeen determined, the inquiry follows, istration in the Eastern countries, the Where can the tariff best be remitted, legation buildings in China, Japan, and what articles can best be released Corea, Siam and perhaps Persia, should from duty in the interest of our citizens? be owned and furnished by the govern-I think the reduction should be made in ment, with a view to permanency and the revenue derived from a tax upon the security. To this end I recommend that imported necessaries of life. We thus authority be given to accept the gifts addirectly lessen the cost of living in every verted to in Japan and Siam, and to pur- family of the land, and release to the chase in the other countries named with public in every humble bome a larger provisions for furniture and repairs. A measure of the rewards of frugal indus-considerable saving in rentals would try.

National Banks and Silver Currency. During the year ended Nov. 1, 1885. at New Orleans last winter with the as- one hundred and forty-five national banks were organized, with an aggregate capital of \$16,938,000 and circulating notes ing among the concourse of visitors from have been issued to them amounting to Mexico and Central and South America a | \$4,274,910. The whole number of these banks in existence on the day above mentioned was 2,727. The very limited amount of circulating notes issued by our national banks compared with the amount the law permit them to issue upon a deposit of bonds for their redemption, indicates that the volume of our circulating medium may be largely increased through this instrumentality. Nothing more important than the present condition of our currency and

tace." -- Norfolk Journal.

J. RASMUSSEM. Your correspondent retaliates in this

A. HENRICH,

R. H. HENRY, President, J. G. ROUTSON, Secretary.

J. B. DELIMAN.