

through the medium of the representatives of their foreign departments. The admirable system which has been built up by the enterprise of the Smithsonian institution affords a practical basis for our co-operation in this scheme and arrangement has been effected whereby the institution will perform the necessary labor under the direction of the department of state. A reasonable compensation therefor should be provided by law.

A SALARIED SERVICE.
A clause in the act making appropriations for the diplomatic and foreign consular service contemplates the reorganization of both branches of such service on a salaried basis, leaving fees to inure to the benefit of the treasury. I cordially favor such a project as likely to correct abuses in the present service. The secretary of state will present to you on an early day a plan for such reorganization.

TREASURY OPERATIONS.

REVENUES OF THE YEAR.
A full and interesting exhibit of the operations of the treasury department is afforded by the report of the secretary. It appears that the ordinary revenues from all sources for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1882, are as follows:

From customs	\$220,421,730.75
From internal revenue	146,497,593.45
From sales of public lands	4,753,141.69
From tax on circulation of bank notes	95,679,454.90
From deposits of national banks	9,079,454.90
From deposits of savings banks	80,271.42
From deposits of other banks	134,334,800.00
From deposits of individuals	2,688,990.97
From proceeds of sales of government property	314,959.85
From profits of coinage, bullion deposits and assays	4,116,033.73
From Indian trust fund	576,213.22
From deposits by individuals	2,032,306.26
From revenues of the District of Columbia	1,715,176.41
From miscellaneous sources	3,883,445.43
Total ordinary receipts	\$1,038,935,250.28

The ordinary expenditures for the same period were:

For civil expenses	\$18,042,386.42
For foreign intercourse	1,357,686.19
For Indian affairs	1,174,747.42
For pensions	61,845,193.91
For the military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenal	4,570,494.19
For the naval establishment, including vessel machinery and improvements at navy yard	15,032,046.26
For miscellaneous expenditures, including public buildings, White House, collecting the revenues	32,330,237.50
For expenditures on account of the District of Columbia	3,350,543.87
For interest on public debt	10,772.06
Total ordinary expenditures	\$27,981,439.17

Leaving a surplus revenue of \$145,443,810.71, which with an amount drawn from the cash balance in the treasury of \$70,737,094.84, making \$216,281,505.55, which was applied to the redemption of bonds for the sinking fund; \$60,070,150.00 of fractional currency for the sinking fund; \$5,705,550.00 of loan of July and August, 1861, \$62,572,050.00 of loan of March 1863, \$4,472,900.00 of funded loan of 1861, \$37,194,450.00 of loan of 1868, \$1,000,000.00 of loan of February, 1861, \$303,000.00 of five-twentieths of 1863, \$2,100.00 of five-twentieths of 1864, \$7,400.00 of five-twentieths of 1865, \$6,500.00 of ten-fifties of 1864, \$254,550.00 of consols of 1865, \$86,450.00 of consols of 1867, \$408,250.00 of consols of 1868, \$141,400.00 of Oregon war debt, \$675,250.00 of old demand, compound interest and other notes, \$18,350.00, total \$106,281,505.55. The

FOREIGN COMMERCE

of the United States during the last fiscal year, including imports and exports of merchandise and specie, was as follows:

Exports of merchandise	\$750,742,272
Specie	49,417,479
Total	\$800,159,751
Imports of merchandise	724,630,574
Specie	42,472,380
Total	\$767,111,954
Excess of exports over imports of merchandise	25,002,603

This excess is less than it has been before any of the previous six years, as appears by the following table:

Year ending June 30, excess of exports over imports	\$176,790,434.81
1877	151,152,004.00
1878	207,814,734.00
1879	254,061,056.00
1880	167,638,912.00
1881	259,712,738.00
1882	25,002,603.00

During the year there have been organized 171 national banks, and in operation 2,269, a larger number than ever before. The value of their notes in active circulation on July 1st, 1882, was \$384,956,458. I commend to your attention the secretary's views in respect to the likelihood of a serious contraction of this circulation, and to the mode by which that result may, in his judgment, be averted. In respect to the

COINAGE OF SILVER DOLLARS

and the retirement of the silver certificates, I have seen nothing to alter but much to confirm the sentiments to which I gave expression last year. A comparison between the respective amounts of silver dollar circulation on November 1, 1881, and on November 1, 1882, shows a slight increase of a million and a half of dollars, but during the interval there had been in the whole number coined an increase of \$26,000,000. Of the \$128,000,000 thus far minted little more than \$35,000,000 are in circulation. The mass of accumulated coin has grown so great that the vault room at present available for storage is scarcely sufficient to contain it. It is not apparent why it is desirable to continue this coinage so enormously in excess of public demand. As to the silver certificates, in addition to the grounds which seemed last year to justify their retirement, may be mentioned the effect of which is likely to ensue in the supply of gold certificates which congress recently made provision and which are now in active circulation. You cannot fail to note with interest the discussion by the secretary of the necessity of providing by legislation some mode of

relieving the treasury of an excess of assets.

REDUCING THE REVENUE.

SHOW IT SHOULD BE DONE.
In the event that congress fails to reach an early agreement for the reduction of taxation, I heartily approve the secretary's recommendation of immediate and extensive reductions in the annual revenues of the government. It will be remembered that I urged upon the attention of congress at its last session the importance of relieving the industry and enterprise of the country from the pressure of unnecessary taxation. It is one of the cruelest maxims of political economy that all taxes are burdensome, however wisely and prudently imposed, and that those who have a been most our people wide differences of sentiment as to the best method of raising the national revenues and, indeed, as to the principles upon which taxation should be based, there has been substantial accord in the doctrine that only such taxes ought to be levied as are necessary for a wise and economical administration of the government. Of late the public revenues have far exceeded that limit, and unless checked by appropriate legislation such excess will continue to increase from year to year. For the fiscal year ended June 30, the surplus revenue amounted to \$100,000,000. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1882, the surplus was more than \$145,000,000. The report of the secretary shows that disposition has been made of these moneys. They have not only answered the requirements of the sinking fund, but have afforded a large balance applicable to other reductions of the public debt. But I renew the expression of my conviction that such rapid extinguishment of the public indebtedness as is now taking place is by no means a cause for congratulation. It is a cause rather for

SERIOUS APPREHENSION.

If it continues, it must speedily be followed by one of the evil issues so clearly set forth in the report of the secretary. Either the surplus must be idle in the treasury, or the government will be forced to buy at market rates its bonds, not yet redeemable, and which, under such circumstances, cannot fail to command an enormous premium, or the swollen revenues will be devoted to extravagant expenditures, which, as experience has taught us, is ever the bane of an over-living public treasury. Upon the showing of our financial condition at the close of the last fiscal year, I feel gratified in recommending to congress the abolition of internal revenue taxes except those upon tobacco in its various forms and on distilled spirits and fermented liquors, and except also the special tax upon the manufacturers and dealers in such articles. I venture now to suggest that unless it shall be ascertained that the probable expenditures of the government for the coming year have been under-estimated, all internal revenue tax which relate to distilled spirits can be prudently abrogated. Such a course, if accompanied by a simplification of the machinery of collection, which would thus be easy of accomplishment, might reasonably be expected to result in diminishing the cost of such collection at least two million and a half dollars, and in the retirement from office of from fifteen hundred to two thousand persons.

THE SYSTEM OF EXCISE DUTIES

have never commended itself to the favor of the American people. It has never been resorted to except for supplying deficiencies in the treasury, when, by reason of special exigencies, the duties on imports have proved inadequate for the needs of the government. The sentiment of the country doubtless commends the present excise tax shall be abolished as soon as such course can safely be pursued. It seems to me, however, for various reasons, so sweeping a measure as the total abolition of internal taxes would for the present be

AN UNWISE STEP.

Two of these reasons are deserving of special mention: First, it is by no means clear that even if the existing system of duties on imports is continued without modification the duties will alone be sufficient for all the needs of the government. It is estimated that \$100,000,000 will be required for pensions during the coming year and it may well be doubted whether the maximum annual demand for that object has yet been reached. Uncertainty upon this question would alone justify in my judgment, the retention for the present of the portion of the system of internal revenue which is least objectionable to the people.

Second, a total abolition of excise taxes would almost inevitably prove a serious if not an insurmountable objection to a thorough revision of the tariff and to any considerable reduction in import duties.

THE PRESENT TARIFF SYSTEM

is in many respects unjust. It makes unequal distributions both of its burdens and of its benefits. The fact has been practically recognized by a majority of each house of congress in the passage of the act creating the tariff commission. The report of that commission will be placed before you at the beginning of this session, and will, I trust, furnish you such information as to the condition and prosperity of the various commercial, agricultural, manufacturing, mining and other interests of the country, and contain such suggestions for statutory revision as will practically aid your action upon this important subject.

THE REVENUE FROM CUSTOMS

for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879, amounted to \$70,000,000. It is probable, for example, that a delay until the assembly of the next congress to make additional provision for the Maitai-pipi river improvement, might be attended with serious consequences. If such should appear to be the case a just bill relating to that subject would commend my approval.

ent needs of industry. Without entering into minute detail which under present circumstances is quite unnecessary, I recommend an enlargement of the free list so as to include within it the numerous articles which yield inconsiderable and the simplification of the complex and inconsistent schedule of duties upon certain manufactures, particularly those of cotton, iron and steel, and a substantial reduction of the duties upon those articles and upon sugar, molasses, silk and woolen goods. If a general revision of the tariff shall be found to be impracticable at this time, I express the hope that at least some of the more conspicuous inequalities of the present law may be corrected before your final adjournment. One of them is especially referred to by the secretary. In a recent decision of the supreme court the necessity of amending the law by which the duties and standard of color is adopted as the test of saccharine strength in sugar is too obvious to require comment. It was made apparent in the course of the animated discussion which this question arouses at the last session of congress that the policy of diminishing the revenue by diminishing taxation commands the general approval of the members of both houses. I regret that the conflicting views as to the best method by which that policy should be made operative, the necessity of the law as yet been repeated. In fulfillment of what I deem my constitutional duty, but with little hope that I can make a valuable contribution to this vexed question, I shall proceed to intimate briefly my own views in relation to it.

THE ARMY.

OPERATIONS OF THE YEAR.
From the report of the secretary of war it appears that the only outbreaks of Indians during the past year occurred in Arizona and in the southwestern part of New Mexico. They were promptly and completely suppressed, which has prevailed in all other parts of the country has permitted such an addition to be made in the military force in the region endangered by the Apaches that there is little reason to apprehend trouble in the future. The reports of the secretary, which relate to our sea coast defenses and their armament, suggest the gravest reflections. Our existing fortifications are notoriously inadequate to the defense of the great harbors and cities for whose protection they were built. The question of providing an armament suited to our present necessities has been the subject of consideration by a board whose report was transmitted to congress at the last session. Pondering the consideration of that report the war department has taken no steps for the manufacture or conversion of any iron cannon, but the secretary expresses the hope that authority will soon be provided. I urge the attention of congress to the propriety of making more adequate provisions for arming and equipping the militia than is afforded by the act of 1866, which is still on the statute books. The matter has already been the subject of discussion in the senate and a bill which seeks to apply the deficiencies of existing laws is now upon its calendar. The secretary of war calls attention to the fact that an embarrassment growing out of the recent act of congress making

MOVEMENTS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

The report of the secretary of the navy states that the movements of the various squadrons during the year in home and foreign waters, where our officers and seamen with such ships as the federal constitution in the past, indicate the high character and excellent discipline of the naval organization. On the 21st of December, 1881, information was received that the exploring steamer Jeannette had been crushed and abandoned in the Arctic ocean. The officers and crew, after a journey of the ice, embarked in three boats for the coast of Siberia. One of the parties, under command of Chief Engineer George W. Melville, reached the land, and falling in with natives, was saved. Another, under Lieutenant-Commander De Long, landed in a barren region near the mouth of the Lena river after six weeks had elapsed and all but two of the number had died from fatigue and starvation. No tidings have been received from the party in the third boat, which was commanded by Lieutenant Chipp, but a long and fruitless investigation leaves but little doubt that all its members perished at sea. As a slight tribute to their heroism I give in this communication

THE NAMES OF THE GALLANT MEN

who sacrificed their lives on the expedition: Lieutenant Commander Geo. W. DeLong, Surgeon James M. Ambler, Jerome J. Collins, Hans Haller, Ericsson Heinrich, H. Kasacke, Geo. A. Boyd, Walter Lee, Adolph Dresser, Nelson Swenson, the Indian cook Ah Sam, and the Indian interpreter. The officers and men in the mission boat are Lieutenant Charles W. Chipp, Commanding, Wm. Dunbar, Alfred Sweetman, Walter Shootell, Albert C. Kuehne, Edwin Star, Henry D. Farren, and P. E. Johnson. Lieutenant Giles B. Harbert and Master Wm. Schutevich are now bringing home the remains of Lieutenant Rogers. The bodies of the crew, excepting to the albatross, are in the hands of the directions of congress the Rogers fitted for the relief of Jeannette, in accordance of an act of congress of March 31, 1881, sailed from San Francisco June 16th, under the command of Lieutenant Robert M. Berry. On November 30, she was accidentally destroyed by fire while in winter quarters in St. Lawrence Bay, her crew perished. The crew succeeded in reaching to the albatross, Lieutenant Berry and one of his officers, after making a search for the Jeannette along the coast of Siberia fell in with Chief Engineer Melville's party and returned home by way of Europe. The other officers and the crew of the Rogers were brought from St. Lawrence Bay by the whaling steamer North Star. Master Charles F. Putnam, who had been placed in charge of a depot of supplies at Cape Serdze, returning to his post from St. Lawrence Bay across the ice in a blinding snow storm, was carried out to sea and lost notwithstanding all efforts to rescue him. It appears by the secretary's report that

THE AVAILABLE NAVAL FORCE

of the United States consists of 37 cruisers, 14 single turreted monitors, built during the rebellion, a large number of smooth bore guns and Parrott rifles, and 87 rifled cannon. The cruising vessels should be gradually replaced by iron or steel ships, the monitors by armored vessels, and their armament by high power rifled guns. The reconstruction of our navy, which was recommended in the last message, was begun by congress authorizing in its recent act the construction of two large armored steel vessels of the character recommended by the late navy advisory board, and subject to the final approval of a new advisory board, to be organized as provided by that act. I call your attention to the recommendations of the secretary and the board that authority be given to construct two more cruisers of smaller dimensions, and one fleet dispatch vessel, and that appropriations be made for

JUMBO LEGISLATION.

AN IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATION.
This leaves me to offer a suggestion, which I trust will commend itself to the wisdom of congress. It is not advisable that grants of considerable sums of money for diverse independent schemes of international improvement should be made subjects of separate and distinct legislative enactments. It will scarcely be gained, even be those who favor the most liberal expenditures for such purposes as

are sought to be accomplished by what is commonly called the river and harbor bill, that the practice of grouping in such a bill of appropriations for a great diversity of objects widely separated either in their nature or locality with which they are concerned, or in both, is one which is much to be deprecated. Unless it is irredeemable it is inevitably tending to secure the success of the bill as a whole, though many of the items, if separately considered, could scarcely fail of rejection. By the adoption of the course I have recommended, every member of congress who every opportunity should arise for giving his influence and vote for meritorious appropriations would be enabled to do so without being called upon to sanction others unbecomingly his approval. So also would the executive be afforded thereby a full opportunity to exercise his constitutional prerogative of opposing whatever appropriations seemed to him objectionable without impairing the success of others which he commended themselves to his judgment. It may be urged in opposition to these suggestions that the number of works of internal improvement which are justly entitled to aid is so great as to render impracticable separate appropriation bills therefor, or even for such comparatively limited number as made disposition of large sums of money. When objection may be well founded, and whether it be or not, the advantages which would be likely to ensue from the adoption of the course I have recommended may perhaps be more effectually attained by another, which I respectfully submit to congress as

AN ALTERNATIVE PROPOSITION.

It is provided by the constitutions of fourteen of our states that the executive may disapprove any item or items of a bill appropriating money, whereupon the part of the bill approved shall be law, and the part disapproved shall fall to become a law, unless re-passed by congress. It is a provision which has been prescribed for the passage of bills over the veto of the executive. The states wherein such provision as the foregoing is a fundamental law, are Alabama, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. I commend to your careful consideration the question whether amendment of the federal constitution in the particular indicated would not afford the best remedy for what is often a grave embarrassment, both to members of congress and to the executive, and is sometimes a serious public mischief.

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high power rifled cannon, for the torpedo service, and for other harbor defenses. Pending the consideration by congress of the policy to be hereafter adopted in conducting the eight large navy yards and their expensive establishments, the secretary advocates the reduction of expenditures to the lowest possible amount, for the purpose of affording officers and seamen of the navy opportunities of exercise and discipline in their profession under appropriate control and directions. The secretary advises that

THE LIGHT HOUSE SERVICE.

and coast survey be transferred as now organized from the treasury to the navy department, and also suggests for reasons which he assigns that a similar transfer may wisely be made of cruising revenue vessels. The secretary forcibly depicts the intimate connection and inter-dependence of the navy and commercial marine, and invites attention to the continued decadence of the latter and the corresponding transfer of our growing commerce to foreign nations. The subject is one of the utmost importance to the national welfare. Methods of reviving American ship-building and of restoring the United States flag in the ocean-carrying trade should receive the immediate attention of congress. We have mechanical skill and abundant material for the manufacture of modern iron steamships in fair competition with the vessels of other countries, and advantage in building ships is the greater cost of labor and in sailing, higher taxes and greater interest on capital, while the ocean highways are already monopolized by our formidable competitors. These obstacles should in some way be overcome, and for our rapid communication with foreign lands we should not continue to depend wholly upon vessels built in the yards of other countries and sailing under foreign flags. With no United States steamer on the principal ocean routes, or for any foreign ports, our facilities for extending our commerce are greatly restricted, while the nations which build and sail the ships and carry the mails and passengers obtain thereby conspicuous advantages in increasing their trade.

THE POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT.

FIGURES AND SUGGESTIONS.
The report of the postmaster general gives evidence of the satisfactory condition of that department, and contains many valuable data and accompanying suggestions, which cannot fail to be of interest. The information which it affords that the receipts for the fiscal year have exceeded the expenditures, must be very gratifying to congress and to the people of the country. As matters which may fairly claim particular attention, I refer you to his observations in reference to the advisability of changing the present basis for fixing salaries and allowances, of extending the money order system, of enlarging the functions of the postal establishment so as to put under its control the telegraph system of the country; though from this last and most important recommendation I must withhold my concurrence. At the last session of congress several bills were introduced into the house of representatives for the reduction of letter postage to a rate of two cents per half ounce. I trust that some agreement may be reached that will speedily and successfully be effected, with the concurrence of the executive, to afford the commercial community the benefits of a national bankrupt law.

THE INTERIOR.

DEALING WITH INDIANS.
The report of the secretary of the interior, with its accompanying documents, presents a full statement of the various operations of that department. In respect to Indian affairs, nothing has occurred which has changed or seriously modified the views to which I devoted much space in a former communication to congress. I renew the recommendations therein contained as to extending to the Indian the protection of law; allotting land in severalty to such as desire it and making suitable provision for education of the youth. Such provision as the secretary forcibly maintains will prove unavailing unless it is broad enough to include all those who are able and willing to make use of it, and should not solely relate to intellectual training but also to instruction in such manual labor and simple and useful arts as can be profitably acquired. Among other important objects which are included in the secretary's report and which will doubtless furnish occasion for congressional action, is the neglect of railroad companies, to which large grants of land were made by acts of 1862 and 1864,

TO TAKE TITLE THERETO

and the consequent inequitable exemption from local taxation. No survey of our material condition can fail to suggest inquiries as to the moral and intellectual progress of the people. The census returns show an alarming state of illiteracy in certain portions of the country where the provision for schools is mostly inadequate. It is a momentous question for the decision of congress whether immediate substantial aid should be extended by the general government for supplementing the efforts of private beneficence and of state and territorial legislature in behalf of education.

REGULATING RAILROADS.

The regulation of inter-state commerce has already been the subject of your deliberations. One of the incidents of the marvelous extension of the railway system of the country has been the adoption of such measures by the corporations which own or control the roads as has tended to impair the advantages of healthful competition and make hurtful discrimination in the adjustment of freightage. These inequalities have been corrected in several of the states by appropriate legislation, the effect of which is necessarily restricted to the limits of their jurisdiction. So far as such mischiefs affect commerce between the states or between any one of the states and of foreign countries, they are subjects of national concern and congress alone can afford relief.

THE WORMONS.

The results which have thus far attended the enforcement of the recent statute for the suppression of polygamy in the territories are reported by the secretary of the interior. It is not probable that any additional legislation in this regard will be deemed desirable until the effect of existing laws shall be more closely observed and studied. The commissioners under whose supervision these laws have been put in operation are encouraged to believe that the evil at which they are aimed may be suppressed without resort to such radical measures as in some quarters have been thought indispensable for success.

THE TERRITORIES.

The close relations of the general government to the territories prepared to be great states may well engage your special attention. It is there that the Indian disturbances occur and that polygamy has found room for its growth. I cannot doubt that a careful survey of the territorial question would be of the highest utility. Life and property would be more secure. The liability of outbreaks between Indians and whites

after the proposed reduction would not exceed 7 per cent of the expenditures, or \$3,000,000, while the deficiency, after the reduction of 1845, was more than 14 per cent, and after that of 1851 was 27 per cent. Another interesting comparison is offered by the postoffice department. The act of 1845 was passed in the face of the fact that there existed a deficiency of more than \$30,000. That of 1851 was encouraged by the slight surplus of \$132,000. The excess revenue in the next fiscal year is likely to be \$3,000,000. If congress should approve these suggestions it may be deemed desirable to supply to some extent the deficiency which must for a time result by increasing the charge for carrying merchandise, which is now only 16 cents per pound. But even without such an increase I am confident that the receipts under the diminished rates would equal the expenditures after a lapse of three or four years.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

ENLARGING THE SYSTEM.
The report of the department of justice brings anew to your notice the necessity of enlarging the present system of federal jurisprudence so as to effectually answer the requirements of the ever increasing litigation with which it is called upon to deal. The attorney-general renews the suggestions of his predecessor that, in the interest of justice, better provisions than the existing laws offered should be made in certain judicial districts for guaranteeing the fees of witnesses and jurors. In the message of December last I referred to the pending original proceedings grown out of fraud known as the

"STAR ROUTE SERVICE"

of the postoffice department, and advised you that I had enjoined upon the attorney general and associate counsel, to whom the interests of the government were intrusted, the duty of prosecuting with the utmost vigor of the law all persons who might be found chargeable with the offenses. A trial of one of these cases has since occurred. It occupied for many weeks the attention of the grand jury of this district, and was conducted with great zeal and ability. It resulted in a disagreement of the jury, but the case has again been placed upon the calendar, and will shortly be retried. If any guilty persons shall finally escape punishment for their offenses, it will not be for lack of diligent and urgent efforts of the prosecution.

THE CIVIL LIST.

now comprises about 100,000 persons, the larger part of which must, under the terms of the constitution, be selected by the president, either directly or through his own appointments. In the early years of the administration of the government the personal direction of appointments in the civil service may not have been an onerous task for the executive, but now that the number has increased fully a hundredfold, it has become greater than he ought to bear, and it necessarily diverts his time and attention from the proper discharge of other duties no less delicate and responsible, and which, in the very nature of things, cannot be delegated to other hands. In the judgment of not a few, who have given study and reflection to this matter, the constitution has outgrown the provision which the constitution establishes for filling the minor offices in public service, but whatever may be thought of the wisdom or expediency of changing the fundamental law in this regard, it is certain that much relief may be afforded, not only to the president and to the heads of the departments, but to the secretary of the interior, the commission has outgrown the provision which the constitution establishes for filling the minor offices in public service, but whatever may be thought of the wisdom or expediency of changing the fundamental law in this regard, it is certain that much relief may be afforded, not only to the president and to the heads of the departments, but to the secretary of the interior, the

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would be lessened, the public domain would be more securely guarded, and better progress be made in the instruction of the young.

ALASKA

is still without any form of civil government. If means were provided for the education of its people and for the protection of their lives and property, the immense resources of the region would invite permanent settlements and open new fields for industry and enterprise. The report of the commissioner of agriculture presents an account of the labors of that department during the past year, and includes information of much interest to the public. The condition of the

FORESTS OF THE COUNTRY

and the wasteful manner in which their destruction is taking place, give cause for serious apprehension. Their action in protecting the earth's surface in modifying the extremes of climate and in replenishing and sustaining the flow of springs and streams is not yet understood, and their importance in relation to the growth of the country cannot be safely disregarded. They are fast disappearing before destructive fires, and the legitimate requirements of our increasing population and their total extinction cannot be long delayed unless better methods than now prevail shall be adopted for their protection and cultivation. The attention of congress is invited to the necessity of additional legislation to secure the preservation of the forests which are still remaining public domain, especially in the extreme western states and territories, where the necessity for their preservation is greater than in less mountainous regions, and where the prevailing dryness of the climate renders the restoration, if they are destroyed, well-nigh impossible.

CIVIL SERVICE.