to accept such prices for their products as are fixed in foreign markets, where they compete with the farmers of the world; that their lands are declining in value while their debts increase, and that without compensating favor they are forced by the action of the government to pay for the benefit of others, such enhanced prices for the things they need that the scanty returns of their labor fail to furnish their support and leave no margin for accumulation. Our workingmen, enfranchised from all delusions and no longer frightened by the cry that their wages are endangered by a just revision of our tariff laws will resonably demand through such revision, steadier employment, cheaper means of living in their homes, freedom for themselves and their children from the doom of perpetual servitude and an open door to their advancement beyond the limits of a laboring class. Others of our citizens whose comforts and expenditures are measured by moderate salaries and fixed incomes will insist upon the fairness and justice of cheapening the cost of necessaries for themselves and their families.

When to the selfishness of the beneficiaries of unjust discrimination under our laws, there shall be added the discontent of those who suffer from such discrimination, we will realize the fact that the beneficient purposes of our government dependent upon the patriotism and contentment of our people are endangered. Communism is a hateful thing and a menace to peace and organized government. But the communism of combined wealth and capital, the outgrowth of overweening cupidity and selfishness which insidiously undermines the justice and integrity of free institutions is not less dangerous than the communism of oppressed poverty and toil which, exasperated by injustice and discontent, attacks with wild disorder the citadel of rule. He mocks the people, who proposes that the government shall protect the rich, and that they in turn shall care for the laboring poor. Any intermediary between the people and their government, or the least delegation of the care and protection the government owes to the humblest citizen in the land makes the boast of free institutions a glittering delusion and the pretended boon of American citizenship a shameless imposition.

A just and suitable revision of our tariff laws should be made for the relief of those of our countrymen who suffer under present conditions. Such a revision should receive the support of all who love that justice and equality due to American citizenship of all who realize that in this justice and equality our government finds its strength and its power to protect the citizen and his property; of all who believe that the contented competence and comfort of money accord better with the spirit of our institutions than colossal fortunes unfairly gathered in the hands of a few; of all who appreciate that the forbearance and fraternity among our people, which recognize the value of every American's interests, are the surest guaranty of our national progress, and of all who desire to see the products of American skill and ingenuity in every market of the world with a resulting restoration of American commerce.

ITS NECESSITY APPARENT.

The necessity of the reduction of our revenue is so apparent as to be generally conceded, but the means by which this end shall be accomplished and the sum of direct benefit which shall result to our citizens present a controversy of the utmost importance. There should be no scheme accepted as satisfactory by which the burdens of the people are only apparently removed. Extravagant appropriations of public money, with all their demoralizing consequence, should not be tolerated either as a means of relieving the treasury of its present surplus or as furnishing pretexts for resisting a proper reduction in tariff rates. Existing evils and injustice should be honestly recognized, boldly met and effectively remedied. There should be no cessation of the struggle until a plan is perfected, fair and conservative toward existing industries, but which will reduce the cost to the cousumers of the necessaries of life, while it provides for our manufacturers the advantage of freer raw materials and permits no injury to the interests of American labor. The cause for which the battle is waged is comprised within lines clearly and distinctly defined. It should never be compromised.

IT IS THE PEOPLE'S CAUSE.

It cannot be denied that the selfish and private interests which are so persistently heard when efforts are made to deal in a just and comprehensive way with our tariff laws, are related to—if they are not responsible for—the sentiment largely prevailing among the people that the general government is the fountain of individual and private aid; that it may be expected to relieve with paternal care the distress of citizens and communities, and that from the fullness of its treasury it should, upon the slightest possible pretext of promoting the general good, apply public funds to the benefit of localities and individuals.

SELFISH LEGISLATION.

Charges of Subordinating Public Weal to Private Ends.

Nor can it be denied that there is a growing assumption that, as against the government and in favor of private claims and interests, the usual rules and limitations of business principles and just dealings should be waived. These ideas have been unhappily much encouraged by legislative acquiescence. Relief from contracts made with the government is too easily acceded in favor of the citizen; the failure to support claims against the government by proof, is often supported by no better consideration than the wealth of the government and the poverty of the claimant. Gratuities in the form of pensions are granted upon other real ground than the needy condition of the applicant or for reasons less valid; and large sums are expended for public buildings and other improvements upon representations scarcely claimed to be related to public needs and necessities. The extent to which the consideration of such matters subordinates and postpones action upon subjects of great public importance, but still involving no special private or partisan interests, should arrest attention and lead to reformation. A few of the numerous illustrations of this condition may be stated.

SUPREME COURT CALENDAR.

The crowded condition of the calendar of the supreme court, and the delay to suitors and denial of justice resulting therefrom, has been strongly urged upon the attention of congress with a plan for the relief of the situation, approved by those who are well able to judge of its merits. While this subject remains without effective consideration many laws have been passed providing for the holding of terms of inferior courts at places to suit the convenience of localities, or to lay the foundation of an application for the erection of a new public building.

PUBLIC LANDS.

Repeated recommendations have been submitted for the amendment and change of the laws relating to our public lands so that their spoliation and diversion to other uses than for homes of honest settlers might be prevented. While a measure to meet this conceded necessity of reform, remains awaiting the action of congress many claims to the public lands and applications for their donation in favor of states and individuals have been allowed.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

A plan in aid of Indian management recommended by those well informed as containing valuable features in furtherance of the solution of the Indian problem has thus far failed of legislative sanction, while grants of doubtful expediency to railroad corporations permitting them to pass through Indian reservations, have greatly multiplied.

UNITED STATES PRISONS.

The propriety and necessity of erection of one or more prisons for the confinement of United States convicts, and a postoffice building in the national capitol are not disputed. But these needs yet remain unanswered while scores of public buildings have been erected where their necessity for public purposes is not apparent.

PENSIONS.

A revision of our pension laws could be easily made which would rest upon just principles and provide for every worthy applicant. But while our general pension laws remain confused and imperfect hundreds of our private pension laws are annually passed which are the sources of unjust discrimination and popular demoralization.

APPROPRIATIONS.

Appropriation bills for the support of the government are defaced by items and provisions to meet private ends, and it is freely asserted by responsible and experienced parties that a bill appropriating money for public internal improvement would fail to meet with favor, unless it contained items more for local and private advantage than for public benefit. These statements can be much emphasized by assertiament of the proportion of federal legislation which either bears upon its face its private character or which upon examination develops such a motive power; and yet the people wait and expect from their chosen representatives such patriotic action as will advance the welfare of the entire county; and this expectation can only be answered by the performance of public duty with unselfish purpose. Our mission among the nations of the earth and our success in accomplishing what God has given the American people to do, require of those intrusted with the making and execution of our laws perfect devotion above all things to the public good.

This devotion will lead us to strongly resist all impatience of constitutional limitations of federal power and to persistently check the increasing tendency to extend the scope of federal legislation into the domain of state and local jurisdiction, upon the plea of subserving the public welfare. The preservation of the partitions between proper subjects of federal and local care and regulation is of such importance under the constitution which is the law of our very existence, that no consideration of expediency or sentiment should tempt us to enter upon doubtful ground. We have undertaken to discover and proclaim the richest blessings of a free government, with the constitution as our guide. Let us follow the way it points out. It will not mislead us, and surely no one who has taken upon himself the solemn obligation to support and preserve the constitution can find justification or solace for disloyalty in the excuse that he wandered and disobeyed in search of a better way to reach the public welfare than the constitution offered.

What has been said is deemed not inappropriate at a time when from a century' height we view the way already trod by the American people and attempt to discover their future path. The seventh president of the United States, the soldier and statesman of all time, the firm and brave friend of the people—in vindication of his course as the protector of the popular rights and the champion of true American citizenship declared:

"The ambition which leads me on is an anxious desire and a fixed determination to restore to the people unimpared the sacred trust they have confided to my charge; to heal the wounds of the constitution and to preserve it from further violation; to persuade my countrymen so far as I may, that it is not in a splendid government supported by powerful monopolies and aristocratic establishments that they will find happiness, or their liberties, protection, but in a plain system void of pomp—protecting all and granting favors to none—dispensing its blessings like the dews of heaven, unseen and unfelt, save in the freshness and beauty, they contribute to produce. It is such a government that the genius of the people requires—such an one only under which our states may remain for ages to come, until, prosperous and free.

THE FISHERIES.

The Immediate Attention of Congress Invoked on This Subject.

The close of the year finds the United States in the enjoyment of domestic tranquility, and at peace with all the nations. Those international questions which await settlement are all reasonably within the domain of amicable negotiations, and there is no existing subject of dispute between the United States and any foreign power that is not susceptible of satisfactory adjustment by frank diplomatic treatment. The questions between Great Britain and the United States relating to the rights of American fishermen under treaty and international comity, in the territorial waters of Canada and Newfoundland, I regret to say are not satifactorily adjusted.

After referring to the convention of February 15, last, the rejection of the treaty by the senate, and his subsequent communications to congress, the president says that, having essayed to procure by negotiations the settlement of the causes in dispute, he is still of the opinion that the treaty of February last supplied a practical, satisfactory and final adjustment upon a basis honorable and just to both parties. He again invokes the earnest and immediate attention of congress to the condition of this important question as it now stands before them and the country, and for the settlement of which he is deeply solicitous.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

A Review of the Sackville-West Affair.

Near the close of the month of October last occurrences of a deeply regretable nature were brought to my knowledge, which made it my painful but imperative duty to obtain, with as little delay as possible, a new personal channel of diplomatic intercourse in this country with the government of Great Britain. The correspondence in relation to this incident will, in due course, be laid before you, and will disclose the unpardonable conduct of the official referred to in his interference, by advice and counsel, with the suffrages of American citizens in the very crisis of the presidential election, then near at hand; also in his subsequent public declarations to justify his action, superadding impugnment of the executive and senate of the United States in connection with important questions now pending in controversy between the two governments The offense thus committed was most grave, involving disastrous possibilities to the good relations of the United States and Great Britain, constituting a gross breach of diplomatic privilege and invasion of the purely domestic affairs and essential sovereignty of the government to which the envoy was accredited.

Having first fulfilled the just demands of international comity by affording full opportunity for her majesty's government to act in relief of the situation, I considered a prolongation of the discussion to be unwarranted, and thereupon declined to further recognize the diplomatic character of the person whose continuance in such function would destroy that mutual confidence which is essential to the good understanding of the two governments, and was inconsistent with the welfare and self-respect of the government of the United States. The usual interchange of communication has since continued through her majesty's legation in this city.

BOUNDARY MATTERS.

The coast and boundary between our Alaskan possessions and British Columbia, I regret to say, has not received the attention demanded by its importance, and which on several occasions heretofore I had the honor to recommend to the congress. Adequate appropriations for reconnoisance and survey to obtain proper knowledge of the locality and geographical features of the boundary should be authorized by congress with as little delay as possible. The knowledge to be only thus obtained in as essential prerequisite for negotiation for ascertaining a common boundary, or as a preliminary to any other mode of settlement.

It is much to be desired that some agreement should be reached with her majesty's government by which damages to life and property on the great lakes may be alleviated by removing or humanly regulating the obstacles to reciprocal assistance to wrecked or strandard vessels. The act of June 19, 1878, which offers to Canadian vessels access to our inland waters in aid of wrecked or disabled vessels, has not yet become effective through concurrent action by Canada.

The due protection of our citizens of French origin or descent from the claim of military service in the event of their returning to or visiting France, has called forth correspondence which was laid before you at the last session. In the absence of conventional agreement as to naturalization, which is greatly to be desired, this government sees no occasion to recede from the sound position it has maintained, not only with regard to France, but as to all countries with which the United States have not concluded special treaties.

I renew my recommendation of two years ago for the passage of a bill for the refunding to certain German steamship lines of the interest upon tonnage dues illegally exacted.

SAMOA AND CHINA.

After referring to our interests in Samoa he takes up the Chinese question. He refers to his approval of the bill for the exclusion of Chinese laborers; to his recommendation that Chinese subjects who have suffered loss at the hands of lawless citizens should be recompensed, and says that appropriations for that purpose having been made, the fund awaits reception by the Chinese government. He mentions the rejection by the Chinese government of the treaty, and concludes this subject by saying that as the influx of Chinese laborers is contrary to the expressed wishes of both governments it will cease, and expresses a hope for pleasanter relations between the two governments in the future.

JAPAN.

After referring to the notice given by the Japanese minister on August 9, 1887, of an adjournment of the conference for a revision of the treaties of Japan with foreign powers, owing to the objection of the Japanese government to a provision in the draft of the jurisdictional convention requiring the submission of its criminal code to the powers, before it became operative, he says this notification was made with the assurance of Japan's intention to continue the revision. He hopes that improvements will soon be made in the jurisdictional system of that country as respects foreigners residing there, and deplores the oppressive foreign interference in matters of commerce of that country, for which he thinks a remedy should be found, and recommends that relief be provided for the injuries accidentally caused to Japanese subjects in the Island Hisima by the target practice of one of our vessels.

COREA.

A diplomatic mission from Corea has been received and the formal intercourse between the two countries contemplated by the treaty of 1882 is now established. Legislative provision is hereby recommended to organize and equip consular courts in Corea.

Persia has established diplomatic representation at this capital and has evinced a very great interest in the enterprise and achievements of our citizens. I am therefore hopeful that beneficial commercial relations between the two countries may be brought about.

HAYTI.

Our representative to Havti has been instructed to abstain from interference between the warring factions and a vessel of our navy has been sent to Haytien waters to sustain our minister and for the protection of the persons and property of American citizens. Due precautions have been taken to enforce our neutrality laws and prevent our territory from becoming the base of military supplies for either of the warring factions. Under color of a blockade of which no reasonable notice had been given and which does not appear to have been efficiently maintained, A seizure of vessels under the American flag has been reported and in consequence measures to prevent and redress any molestation of any of our innocent merchantmen have been adopted.

HAWAII.

The president recommends cable connections between the Pacific states and Honolulu.

MEXICO.

The wisdom of concluding a treaty of commercial reciprocity with Mexico has been confirmed by the lapse of time and the growth of commerce with that close neighbor.

The precise relocation of our boundary line is needful, and adequate appropriation is now recommended.

It is with sincere satisfactian that I am enabled to advert to the spirit of good neighborhood and friendly co-operation and conciliation that has marked the correspondence and action of the Mexican authorities in their share of the task of maintaining law and order about the line of our common boundary.

COSTA RICA AND NICARAGUA.

The long pending boundary dispute between Costa Rica and Nicaragua was referred to my arbitration, and by an award made on the 22d of March last, the question has been finally settled, to the expressed satisfaction of both parties interested.

BRAZIL.

The president congratulates Brazil on her abolition of slavery.

CHILI.

The claims of nearly all other countries against Chili growing out of the war war with Bolivia and Peru have been disposed of, either by arbitration or by a lump settlement. Similar claims of our citizens will continue to be urged upon the Chilian government, and it is hoped will not be subject to further delays.

PERU.

A comprehensive treaty of amity and commerce with Peru was proclaimed on November 7, last, and it is expected that under its operation mutual prosperity and good understanding will be promoted.

ECUADOR.

In the pursuance of the policy of arbitration, a treaty to settle the claim of Santos, an American citizen, against Ecuador, has been concluded under my authority and will be duly submitted for the approval of the senate.

Like disposition of the claim of Carlos Butterfield against Denmark, and of Van Bokelen against Havti, will probably be made, and I trust the principle of such settlements may be extended in practice under the approvel of the senate.

VENEZUELA.

Through unforeseen causes foreign to the will of both governments, the ratification of the convention of December 5, 1885, with Venezuela for the rehearing of claims of citizens of the United States under the treaty of 1866, failed to exchange within the term provided and a supplementary convention, further extending the time for exchange of ratifications, and explanatory of an ambiguous provision of the prior convention, now awaits the advise and conseat of the senate.

Although this matter in the stage referred to concerns only the concurrent treaty making power of one branch of congress, I advert to it in view of the interest repeatedly and conspicuously shown by you in your legislative capacity, in favor of speedy and equitable adjustment of the questions growing out of the discredited judgments of the previous mixed commission of Caracas. With every desire to do justice to the representation of Venezuela in this regard, the time seems to have come to end this matter, and I trust the prompt confirmation by both parties of the supplementary action referred to will avert the need of legislative or other action to prevent the longer withholding of such rights of actual claimants as may be shown to exist.

A CONGRESS OF NATIONS.

As authorized by the congress, preliminary steps have been taken for the assemblage at this capital, during the coming year, of the representatives of South and Central American states, together with those of Mexico, Hayti and San Domingo, to discuss sundry important monetary and commercial topics, excepting in those cases where, from reasons of contiguity of territory and the expense of a border line incapable of being guarded, reciprocal commercial treaties may be found expedient, it is believed that commercial policies inducing freer mutual exchange of products can be most advantageously arranged by independent but co-operative legislation in the mode last mentioned. The control of our taxation for revenue will be always retained in our own hands, unrestricted by commercial agreements with other governments.

CONFERENCE OF MARITIME POWERS.

In conformity also with congressional authority the maritime powers have been invited to confer in Washington in April next upon the practicability of devising uniform rules and measures for the greater security of life and property at sea. A disposition to accept on the part of a number of the powers has already been manifested, and if the co-operation of the nations chiefly interested shall be secured, important results may be confidently anticipated.

THE TONNAGE ACT.

The act of June 26, 1884, and the acts amendatory thereof, in relation to the tonnage duties, will be made a subject of special and more detailed communication at the present session.

IMMIGRATION LAWS.

The president says in effect that their abuse calls for a radical revision; that the ease with which certificates of American citizenship can be obtained has led to a class of spurious citizens who are getting us into complications with the foreign governments whose allegiance they have thrown off without becoming citizens of this country or removing their residence from countries whose citizenship they have discarded. Our laws regulating the issue of passports should, therefore, be carefully revised and the constitution of a central bureau of registration at the capital is again strongly recommended.

CONSULAR OFFICES.

The president recommends the cutting down of the consular offices, and the so-called notarial or unofficial fees which our representatives abroad are now permitted to treat as personal perquisities should be forbidden; that a system of consular inspection should be instituted, and that a limited number of secretaries of legation-at-large should be authorized.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE.

Figures of the Treasury For the Past Fiscal Year.

Taking up the report of the secretary of the treasury the document shows that the receipts from all sources for the fiscal year exceeded those of the preceding one by $786,279,710, while the expenditures show a decrease of $827,822,030, and that the estimated surplus of 1889 is $104,000,000 and of 1890 is $10,123,251,166

The requirements of the sinking fund act, he continues, have been met for the year ended June 30, 1888, and for the current year also, by the purchase of bonds. After complying with this law, as positively required, and bonds sufficient for that purpose had been bought at premium, it was not deemed prudent to further expend the surplus in such purchases until the authority to do so should be more explicit. A resolution, however, having been passed by both houses of congress removing all doubt as to executive authority, daily purchases of bonds were commenced on April 23, 1888, and have continued until the present time. By this plan bonds of the government not yet due have been purchased up to and including November 30, 1888, amounting to $94,700,450, the premium paid thereon amounting to $17,908,613 03.

At first sight this would seem to be a profitable and sensible transaction on the part of the government, as suggested by the secretary of the treasury. The surplus thus expended for the purchase of bonds was money drawn from the people in excess of any actual need of the government and was so expended rather than allow it to remain idle in the treasury. If this surplus, under the operation of just and equitable laws, had been left in the hands of the people, it would have been worth in their business at least 6 per cent per annum. Deducting from the amount of interest on the principal and premium of these bonds for the time they had to run at the rate of 6 per cent, the saving of 2 per cent made for the people by the purchase of such bonds, the loss would appear to be $55,760,000. This calculation would seem to demonstrate that if excessive and unnecessary taxation is continued, and the government is forced to pursue this policy of purchasing its own bonds at the premiums which it will be necessary to pay, the loss to the people will be hundreds of millions of dollars. He further concurred with the recommendation to the secretary to suspend the coining of silver.

THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

The secretary of war reports that the army, at the date of the last consolidated returns, consisted of 2,189 officers and 24,549 enlisted men. The actual expenditures of the war department for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1888, amounted to $41,165,107.07, of which sum $9,158,516.63 was expended for public works, including river and harbor improvements.

After referring to the operations of the department during the last fiscal year, and the various plans on foot for increasing the efficiency of the service, the president says:

I earnestly request that the recommendations contained in the secretary's report, all of which are, in my opinion, calculated to increase the usefulness and discipline of the army, may receive the consideration of the congress. Among those proposed is that there should be provided a plan for the examination of officers to test their fitness for promotion. This reform has been before recommended in the reports of the secretary, and its expediency is so fully demonstrated by the argument he presents in its favor that its adoption should no longer be neglected.

The death of Sheridan is briefly touched upon, and the president pays a glowing tribute to his many admirable qualities.

Speaking of the Apache Indians, whose removal from their reservation in Arizona following the capture of those of their number who engaged in a murderous raid in 1885 and 1886, and who are now held as prisoners of war at Mount Vernon barracks, Alabama, the president says:

I am not at all in sympathy with those benevolent but injudicious people who are constantly insisting that these Indians should be returned to the reservation. Their removal was an absolute necessity if the lives and property of citizens upon the frontier are to be at all regarded by the government, and their continued restraint at a distance from the scene of their repeated and cruel murders and outrages is still necessary. It is mistaken philanthropy, in every way injurious, which prompts the desire to see these savages returned to their old haunts. These prisoners should be treated kindly and kept in restraint far from the locality of their former reservation; they should be subjected to efforts calculated to lead to their improvement, and to the softening of their savage and cruel instincts, but their return to their old home should be persistently resisted.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

The report of the secretary of the navy demonstrates very intelligent management in that important department and discloses the most satisfactory progress in the work of reconstructing the navy during the past year. Of the ships in course of construction, five, viz: the Charleston, Baltimore, Yorktown, Vesuvius and the Petrel have in that time been launching and are rapidly approaching completion, and in addition to the above, the Philadelphia, the San Francisco, the Newark, the Bennington, Concord and the Horresshof torpedo boat are under contract for delivery to the department during the next year. The progress already and being made, gives good ground for the expectation that these vessels will be incorporated as part of the American navy within the next twelve months.

At the present time about 30 per cent of the total departmental purchases are made by contract, and after competition, as the expenditures on this account exceed on an average of $2,000,000 annually, it is evident that an important improvement in the system has been inaugurated and substantial economies introduced.

THE POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT.

The report of the postmaster general shows a marked increase of business in every branch of the postal service. The number postoffices on July 1, 1888, was 57,376, an increase of 6,124 in three years, and of 2,219 for the last fiscal year. The latter mentioned increase is classified as follows: New England states 5, middle states 181, southern states and Indian territory 441, 1,406, the states and territories of the Pacific coast 190, the ten states and territories of the west and northwest 434, district of Columbia 2, total 2,219.

During the past year parcel post conventions have been concluded with Barbadoes, the Bahamas, British Honduras and Mexico, and are now under negotiation with all the Central and South American states. The increase of correspondence with foreign countries during the past three years is gratifying, and is especially notable and exceptional with the Central and South American states and with Mexico. As the greater part of mail matter exchanged with these countries is commercial in its character, this increase is evidence of the improved business relations with them. In January last a general post convention was negotiated with the Dominion of Canada, which went into operation on March 1, and which practically makes one postal territory of the United States and Canada. Under it merchandise parcels may now be transferred through the mails at fourth class rates of postage.

The bills introduced at the last session, by which a uniform standard in the amount of receipts involved fix the right of a community to a public building to be erected by the government, and fixing the salaries of fourth class postmasters, are earnestly commended to the approval of congress. Especial attention is called to the recommendations for the classification of postal clerks, and legislation affecting the relations of the government with the railroads.

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

Referring to the report of the attorney general he brought out, as an illustration of the prevailing sentiment that a debt due to the government should cause no inconvenience, the fact that only one-fifth of the judgments recorded had been collected. The 600 convictions in Utah led him to observe that under such a firm and vigilant execution of those laws and the advance of ideas opposed to the forbidden practices, polygamy within the United States is virtually at an end.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

I cannot too strenuously insist upon the importance of proper measures to insure a right disposition of our public lands, not only as a matter of present justice but in forecast of the consequence to future generations. The broad, rich acres of our agricultural plains have been long preserved by nature to become her untrammeled gift to a people civilized and free, upon which should rest, in well distributed ownership, the numerous homes of enlightened, equal and fraternal citizens. They came to national possession with the warning example in our eyes of the entail of iniquities in landed proprietorship which other countries have permitted and still suffer.

We have no excuse for the violation of principles, cogently taught by reason and example, nor for the allowance of pretexts which have sometimes exposed our lands to colossal greed. Laws which open the door to fraudulent acquisition or an administration which permits to a few the rapacious seizure of expanded areas that many should enjoy, are accessory to offenses against our national welfare and humanity not to be too severely condemned or punished.

It is gratifying to know that something has been done at least to redress the injuries to our people and check the perilous tendency of the reckless waste of the national domain.

Our dear experience ought sufficiently to urge the speedy enactment of measures of legislation which will confine the future disposition of our remaining agricultural lands to use of actual husbandry and genuine homes. Nor should our vast tracts of so-called desert lands be yielded up to the monopoly of corporations or grasping individuals, as appears to be much the tendency under the existing statute. The lands require but the supply of water to become fertile and productive. It is a problem of great moment how most wisely, for the public good, that factor shall be furnished. I cannot but think it perilous to suffer either these lands or the sources of their irrigation to fall into the hands of monopolies, which, by such means, may exercise lordship over acres dependent on their treatment for productiveness. Already steps have been taken to secure accurate and scientific informations of the conditions, which is the proper basis of intelligent action. Until this shall be gained, the course of wisdom appears clearly to lie in a suspension of further disposal, which only promises to create rights antagonistic to the common interest. No harm can follow this precautionary conduct. The land will remain, and the public good presents no demands for hasty dispossession of national ownership and control.

I commend also the recommendations that appropriate measures be taken to complete the adjustment of the various grants to the states for internal improvements and of swamp and overflowed lands, as well as to adjudicate and finally determine the validity and extent of the numerous private land claims. All these are elements of great injustice and peril to the settlers upon the localities effected.

The conditions of Indian affairs testifies to the value of the higher tone of consideration and humanity which has governed the later method of dealing with them, and commend its continued observance. Allotments in severalty have been made on some reservations, until all those entitled to land thereon have had their shares assigned, and the work is still continued. In directing the execution of this duty, I have not aimed so much at rapid dispatch as to secure just and fair arrangements, which shall best conduce to the objects of the law, by producing satisfaction with the results of the allotments made. No measure of general effect has ever been entered on from which more may be fairly hoped, if it shall be discreetly administered. It proffers opportunity to that independence of spirit and life which the Indian peculiarities need, while at the same time, the inalienability of title affords security against the risks his inexperience of affairs or weakness of character may expose him to in dealing with others. Whenever begun upon any reservation, it should be made complete, so that all are brought to the same condition, and as soon as possible community in lands should cease by opening such as remain unallotted to settlement. Contact with the ways of industrious and successful farmers, will, perhaps, add a healthy emulation, which will both instruct and stimulate. But no agency for the amelioration of this people appears to me so promising as the extension, urged by the secretary, of such complete facilities of education as shall at the earliest possible day embrace all teachable Indian youths of both sexes, and retain them with a kindly and beneficent hold until their characters are formed and their facilities and dispositions trained for such pursuits.

The Sioux tribes on the great reservation of Dakota refused to assent to the act passed by the congress at its last session for opening a portion of their lands to their settlement, notwithstanding a modification of the terms was suggested, which met most of their objection. It is at least gratifying that no reproach of over-reaching can in any manner be made against the government, however advisable the favorable completion of the negetiation may have been esteemed.

I am thoroughly convinced that our general pension laws should be revised and adjusted to meet as far as possible in the light of our experience all meritorious cases. The fact that 102 different rates of pensions are paid, cannot in my opinion be made consistent with justice to the pensioners or to the government and the numerous private pension bills passed, predicated upon the imperfection of general laws, while they increase in many cases existing inequality and injustices, lend additional force to the recommendation for revision of the general laws on this subject.

The laxity of ideas prevailing among a large number of our people regarding pensions is becoming every day more marked. The principles upon which they should be granted are in danger of being altogether ignored, and already pensions are often claimed because the applicants are as much entitled as other successful applicants rather than upon any disability reasonably attributable to military service. If the establishment of various precedents be continued, the granting of pensions be not divorced from partisan and other unworthy and irrevelant considerations, and if the honorable name of veteran unfairly becomes by these means but another term for one who constantly clamors for the aid of the government, there is danger that injury will be done to the fame and patriotism of many whom our citizens all delight to honor, and that a prejudice will be aroused unjust to meritorious applicants for pensions.

The adjustment of the relations between the government and the railroad companies, which have received land grants and the guaranty of the public credit in aid of the construction of their roads, should receive early attention. The report of a majority of the commissioners appointed to examine the affairs and indebtedness of these roads, in which they favor an extension of the time for the payment of such indebtedness, in at least one case, where the corporation appears to be able to comply with well guarded and exact terms of such extension, and the reenforcement of their opinion by gentlemen of undoubted business judgment and experience appointed to protect the interests of the government as directors of said corporation, may well lead to the belief that such an extension would be to the advantage of the government. The subject should be treated as a business proposition, with a view to the final realization of its indebtedness by the government, rather than as a question to be decided upon prejudice or by way of punishment for previous wrong doing. The suggestions the commissioners of the District of Columbia make touching desirable amendments to the laws relating to license granted for carrying on the retail traffic in spirituous liquors; to the observance of Sunday; to the proper assessment and collection of taxes; to the speedy punishment of minor offenders, and to the management of the reformatory and charitable institutions supported by congressional appropriations, are commended to care and consideration.

The consciousness that I have presented but an imperfect statement of the condition of our country and its wants occasion me no fear that anything omitted is not known and appreciated by the congress upon whom rests the responsibility of intelligent legislation in behalf of a great nation and a confiding people.

As public servants we shall do our duty well if we constantly guard the rectitude of our intentions, maintain unsullied our love of country and with unselfish purpose strive for the public good. GROVER CLEVELAND.

THE MESSAGE ABROAD.

English Newspaper Comment on Cleveland's Latest Effort.

LONDON, Dec. 3.—[Special Cablegram to THE BEE.]—The London Morning Post, commenting on the president's message, says:

"If America is really inclined to resume negotiations on the subject of the fisheries, it will find the English minister animated only by a sincire desire to promote the final and satisfactory adjustment which Mr. Cleveland mentions. While unable to hold the same opinion as Mr. Cleveland as to what the great demands of the country are, the Post thinks that it would be better if England would look to the disposition of American statesmen in the future than to wrangle over the past."

The Daily News says that it would express more regret for Mr. Cleveland's acrimonious reference to the dismissal of Lord Sackville, if Lord Salisbury had not set the example. Mr. Cleveland, it thinks, evidently has Lord Salisbury's fatal gift of a bitter tongue. In other respects the message seems to be the most powerful performance which the president has accomplished, namely, the feat of saying something both new and true about protection. The News further remarks that the message is likely to become a household word for the orators of Hyde Park and Clerkenwell. The fisheries question, it thinks, will have a smaller chance for settlement under Mr. Harrison than under Mr. Cleveland, but, having only one great party to please, the chances for the judgment on its merits may be greatly improved.

The Chronicle says: "President Cleveland uses strong but true language about protection. In regard to the Sackville matter, it is satisfying to find that he refers to it as an occurrence to be deeply regretted. This is in marked contrast to Lord Salisbury's flippant sarcasm. We hope that Lord Salisbury will consider it a sufficient reason to appoint a successor to Lord Sackville without delay."

The Standard says: "President Cleveland's message might have been more gracious and dignified if he could only have effaced from his resolution the unsuccessful election coup which sullied an otherwise honorable record. We did not expect to find him repeating his original error to show that he was ashamed of himself." After quoting references to the Sackville matter in the message the Standard proceeds in a similar strain, and through sentence after sentence of solemn froth: "Englishmen," it says, "can afford to smile at such puerile nonsense. Even Americans will not pretend to take it in good earnest. Doubtless Lord Sackville was technically wrong, but Ministers Lowell and Phelps committed themselves the same way, though not in the same degree, scores of times in their addresses to Englishmen, which were read with much edification and not the smallest trace of resentment." The Standard thinks the fisheries question now has a chance of being settled.

THE CUSTOMS SERVICE.

Annual Report of Supervising Special Agent Jewell.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—In his annual report supervising Special Agent Jewell, of the treasury, states that the amount recovered and paid into the treasury through the direct services of the officers and employes of his division exceeds the total cost of such services by $27,890. This is exclusive of the amount involved in suits, commenced and undetermined; of reductions of expenses recommended, and additions aggregating $853,311 to the invoice values of silk goods from France and Switzerland.

In a discussion of the subject of undervaluations and false classifications he says:

While the chief officers of customs at the principal ports have generally co-operated heartily with the department in its efforts to enforce the laws and regulations in these regards, the abuses mentioned continue. The unscrupulous still prosper at the expense of the public revenue and of honest importers, and it is manifest that justice and equality at the custum houses cannot be secured to all interested without a radical revision of the customs and revenue laws and a reformation of the existing administrative methods and machinery. He states that the high duty on opium and the fact that it is easily smuggled, has made it a favorite object of traffic with those who wish to benefit by a violation of the revenue laws. It is highly desirable that the recommendation of the department made last year for its seizure and destruction of the drug in that form wherever found should be speedily passed by congress.

SHE PREFERRED THE OLD MAN.

How a Texas Youth Was Cheated Out of His Sweetheart.

SHERMAN, Tex., Dec. 3.—A peculiar case of romance and disappointment in love developed at Whitesboro, in this county, yesterday. A young man named Anderson, who came to Texas from Tennessee about a year ago, has been in correspondence with a young woman at his old home and was engaged to marry her. He paid her a visit a short time ago, and also visited his father, who is a widower with several children. Young Anderson returned to Whitesboro, having arranged to marry the girl during the coming spring. Yesterday he received two letters, one from his father and one from the young woman, telling him that they had been married the day the letters were written. The young man is irreconcilable.

Nebraska and Iowa Pensions.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Pensions granted Nebraskans to-day: Original invalid—Valentine W. Krise, Neligh; Andrew S. Karnes, Plattsmouth. Increases—David O. Wald, Superior. Reissue—John McFarland, Creighton.

Pensions for Iowans. Original invalid—Elias DeLashmates, Burlington; Charles Claus, Clare. Increase—Stephen Inns, Contrill; Elisha Hodgin, Calliope; Uriah Thomas, Corning; Geo. W. Collins, Manhattan.

A Mine Explosion.

NEWCASTLE, Col., Dec. 3.—A terrific explosion occurred at the Newcastle Midland mine this afternoon. One man was killed and eight seriously wounded, several of whom will die.

MEXICAN MUSTANG LINIMENT

Penetrates Muscle, Membrane and Tissue to the very Marrow Bones. Give it one trial and be convinced! It banishes all pain instantly. Cures Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sciatica, Neuralgia, Swellings Contracted Muscles, Diseased Tendons, Bites and Poisonous Stings, Cuts, Bruises, Sprains, Strains, Burns, Scalds, Piles, Lame Back and every AILMENT that can be cured by an OUTWARD APPLICATION!!

Ailments of Horses, Mules, Cattle and Sheep. such as Foot Rot, Screw Worm, Shoulder Rot, Hollow Horn, Grub and Hoof Disease in Cattle, Scratches in Horses and Mules, Wind Gails, Spraius, Spavins, Swiney, Ringbone, Stiff Joints, Lameness and Soreness, Diseased Hoofs, Harness and Saddle Sores & Galls, Blotches, Skin Lumps, Loss of Hair and everything curable by external application, the MUSTANG LINIMENT is Matchless. *Rub it in very thoroughly.*

Thus the "Mustang" conquers pain, Makes MAN or BEAST well again!

VACCINATING CHILDREN.

A Prominent Physician Talks About Vaccination.

The Operation being performed on School Children Very Extensively—The Small Pox Scare.

"Are you vaccinating many school children now? asked our writer of a prominent physician a day or two ago. "Not very many, as I do not do much family practice," answered the doctor, "but I had two little fellows step into my office several days ago and one of them wanted the operation performed, which I did to his entire satisfaction, apparently for he left the office smiling."

"Then the operation is not attended with much pain, is it?" queried the writer.

"No, it is not painful, a little scratching and then apply the virus and it is all over. I have vaccinated a great many persons, here and elsewhere, and have vaccinated them at all ages, from one year and upwards. Only a few days ago I vaccinated a little baby girl not more than a year old, and while she cried some, it did not hurt her but she was badly frightened. If you would like to see how it looks call on Mrs. T. Stapenhorst, at No. 830 South 16th street, it was her little girl that I speak of and she will tell you all about it. I vaccinated her little boy too and have treated her son William, and she will be pleased to tell you all about it."

The writer called on Mrs. Stapenhorst at 838 South 16th street, and found a very pleasant and motherly looking lady, who gave him the following about her children.

"Yes, the doctor did vaccinate Freddy and the baby, but that is nothing compared to what he did for Willie, not a circumstance. Willie was complaining for a long time, he would have horrible dull pains over the eyes with a continual headache, had a bad taste in his mouth, his nose was always stopped up, sometimes one side then the other and he was hawking and spitting all the time. But added to all this was something worse, he was gradually growing deaf, he could scarcely hear ordinary conversation and unless we spoke very loud to him he could not understand; he had a steady running from both ears, and I was very much alarmed for fear he would lose his hearing entirely, that he had catarrh; I was sure for I myself had had that dread trouble and had been treated very successfully for it by Dr. C. M. Jordan, at 310 Range Block. After consulting with my husband, I took Willie to see Dr. Jordan and placed him under his treatment and the result is that he is entirely cured of his catarrh and he can hear as well as you or I can. Here he and you can talk to him yourself.

WILLIE STAPENHORST.

The next moment the writer was engaged in conversation with a very bright and intelligent looking and very manuerly young man who, on being questioned about his hearing, said:

"