

# RECEIVE TO CONGRESS

## His Annual Communication Upon Questions of Importance to the Nation.

### VIEWS ON THE TRUSTS AND TARIFF

#### A Lowering of Import Duties Would Not Remedy the Evils of Monopoly—Believes in a Tariff Commission—Much That is Good in Labor Unions and Corporations—Many Needs of the Nation.

To the Senate and House of Representatives: We still continue in a period of unbounded prosperity. This prosperity is not the creature of law, but undoubtingly the laws under which we work have been instrumental in creating the conditions which made it possible, and in the least legislation it would be easy enough to destroy it. There will undoubtedly be periods of depression. The way will be to modify the laws under which we work have been instrumental in creating the conditions which made it possible, and in the least legislation it would be easy enough to destroy it.

commercial freedom entailing restraint upon national commerce fall within the regulative power of the congress, and that it is not the creature of law, but undoubtingly the laws under which we work have been instrumental in creating the conditions which made it possible, and in the least legislation it would be easy enough to destroy it.

**Causes of Prosperity.**  
No country has ever occupied a higher plane of material well-being than ours in the present century. This is due to no sudden or accidental causes, but to the play of the economic forces of the country. Our sustained and continuous policies; above all, to the high individual average of our citizenship. Great fortunes have been made, and more will be made, but as an incident to action which has benefited the country as a whole. Never before in our history has so much wealth been so widely diffused among our people. Great fortunes have been accumulated, and yet in the aggregate those fortunes are small indeed. The insurance companies, which are practically mutual benefit societies—especially helpful to men of moderate means—represent accounts of wealth which are among the largest in this country. There are more deposits in the savings banks of this country than in any other. Paid wage workers in this country now than ever before in our history. Of course, when the conditions are favorable, the growth of such wealth that would have also favored somewhat the growth of what is evil. It is eminently necessary that we should be well-kept from this evil, but let us keep a due sense of proportion; let us not fix our gaze on the least of evils, but on the good. The evils are real and some of them are menacing, but they are the outgrowth, not the cause, of our gigantic industrial development. This industrial development must not be checked, but it should be so regulated as to diminish the evils. We should fall in line with the progress of the world, but we should succeed only if we proceed patiently, with practical common sense and a well-considered plan, and the good from the past and the former while endeavoring to get rid of the latter.

**THE TARIFF.**  
It is a subject that stands apart from the trusts.  
One proposition advanced has been the reduction of the tariff. This is a far-reaching suggestion, but it is not a far-reaching one. The tariff is a subject that stands apart from the trusts. It is a subject that stands apart from the trusts. It is a subject that stands apart from the trusts.

**THE TRUSTS.**  
They Can Be Controlled Only by National Action.  
In my message to the present congress at its first session I discussed at length the question of the regulation of those great corporations which are engaged in interstate business, often with some tendency to monopoly, which are popularly known as trusts. I have since that time year has emphasized, in my opinion, the desirability of the steps I then proposed. The fundamental requisite of social efficiency is the free play of individual energy and excellence; but this is in no wise inconsistent with power to act in the common interest. Power cannot so well be achieved by the individual acting alone. A fundamental base of social efficiency is the free play of individual energy and excellence; but this is in no wise inconsistent with power to act in the common interest. Power cannot so well be achieved by the individual acting alone.

**Need of a Tariff Commission.**  
Wherever the tariff conditions are such that a needed change cannot be made by the application of the reciprocity idea, then it can be made only by a lowering of duties on a given product. If possible, such change should be made only after the fullest consideration of practical experts who should approach the subject from a business standpoint, having in view both the particular interests affected and the commercial well-being of the people as a whole. The machinery for providing such careful investigation can readily be supplied. The executive department has at its disposal the methods of collecting facts and figures, and if the congressional committee should be organized, then a commission of business experts can be appointed by the congress after a deliberate and scientific examination of the various schedules as they are affected by the changed and changing conditions. The unburied and unbiased report of this commission would be a most valuable aid in the various schedules, and how far these changes could go without changing the great principle of reciprocity which the country is now enjoying, or upsetting its fixed economic policy.

**Must Exercise Care.**  
In curbing and regulating the combination of capital which are or may be injurious to the public we must be careful not to stop the great enterprises which are so essential to the nation's production, not to abandon the place which our country has won in the leadership of international commerce, and not to strike down wealth with the result of closing factories and mines, of turning the wage-workers idle, and of depriving the farmer without a market for what he grows. Insistence upon the impossible means delay in achieving the possible, except in the case of land, its cultivation, defense alike of what is good and what is bad in the existing system, the result of effort to obstruct any attempt at betterment betrays blindness to the historic truth that wise evolution is the sure safeguard against revolution.

**International Arbitration.**  
As civilization grows warfare becomes less and less the normal condition of foreign relations. The last century has seen a marked diminution of wars between civilized powers; wars with uncivilized powers are largely mere matters of expediency, and the civilized world is the welfare of the world. Wherever possible, arbitration or some similar method should be employed in settling international disputes. The civilized world is the welfare of the world. Wherever possible, arbitration or some similar method should be employed in settling international disputes.

crises it might be of service to the people.  
**Needed Financial Legislation.**  
Interest rates are a potent factor in business activity, and in order that these rates may be equalized to meet the varying needs of the country, it is necessary to separate communities, and to prevent the recurrence of financial stringencies which are so injurious to the business. It is necessary that there should be an element of elasticity in our monetary system. Banks are the natural servants of commerce, and upon their soundness and stability, as far as practicable, the burden of furnishing and maintaining a circulation adequate to the needs of our diversified industries and of our domestic and foreign commerce; and the issue of this should be so regulated that a sufficient supply should be always available for the business interests of the country.

**THE PANAMA CANAL.**  
French Company Offers a Good Title to Its Property.  
The congress has wisely provided that we shall build at once an isthmian canal, if possible at Panama. The attorney general reports that we can undoubtedly acquire good title from the French Panama Canal company. Negotiations are now being conducted to secure the title to our building the canal. This canal will be one of the greatest engineering feats of our century, and a great benefit to the world.

**THE LABOR PROBLEM.**  
Unionism Contains Much That is Good and Some That is Bad.  
How to secure fair treatment alike for labor and for capital, how to hold in check the unscrupulous man, whether employer or employee, without weakening individual initiative and without curtailing and cramping the industrial development of the country, is a problem fraught with momentous consequences. The highest importance to solve on lines of sanity and far-sighted common sense is a subject that stands apart from the trusts. It is a subject that stands apart from the trusts. It is a subject that stands apart from the trusts.

permanent tribunal than to create special courts for a given purpose.  
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**THE PACIFIC CABLE.**  
During the fall of 1901 a communication was addressed to the secretary of state, and the president was informed of the proposed cable. It is a subject that stands apart from the trusts. It is a subject that stands apart from the trusts. It is a subject that stands apart from the trusts.

**THE POLICY OF HOLDING THEM HAS BEEN VINDICATED.**  
On July 4 last, on the one hundred and twenty-first anniversary of the signing of our independence, peace and amnesty were proclaimed in the Philippine Islands. Some trouble has since been caused by the creation of a new Mohammedan Moslem, but with the late insurrectionary Filipinos the war has been ended. The policy of holding them has been vindicated.

**CUBAN RECIPROcity.**  
President insists the Island Should Have Consideration.  
I hope soon to submit to the senate a report on the rights of Cuba. The United States kept its promise to the island by formally vacating Cuban her territory, and she has since that time been a free people. The policy of holding them has been vindicated.

**PROGRESS OF IRRIGATION.**  
Few subjects of more importance have been taken up by the congress in recent years than the inauguration of the system of national irrigation. The irrigation of the arid regions of the far west. A good beginning has been made. Now that the policy of national irrigation has been adopted, the need of thorough and scientific forest protection will grow rapidly than ever throughout the public-land states.

**THE NEW WHITE HOUSE.**  
Through a wise provision of the congress at its last session the white house, which has become a disfigurement by enormous additions and changes, has now been restored to what it was planned to be. The white house, which has become a disfigurement by enormous additions and changes, has now been restored to what it was planned to be.

new conditions and joined with our representatives to work with hearty cooperation for the welfare of the nation. I urgently call your attention to the need of passing a bill providing for a general reorganization of the military and naval departments on the lines of the bill proposed by the secretary of war last year. When the young officers enter the army from West Point, they probably have above their comrades in any other military service. Every effort should be made, by training by means of military and naval into their careers and capacity, to keep them of the same high relative excellence throughout their lives.

**NEEDS OF THE NAVY.**  
More Ships and Men Needed to Keep Pace with the Times.  
For the first time in our history naval mappers on a large scale are being held under the immediate control of the admiralty of the navy. Constantly increasing attention is being paid to the gunnery of the navy, but it is yet far from what it should be. It is earnestly urged that the increase asked for by the secretary of the navy in the appropriation for improving the navy be granted.

**THE INDIANS.**  
In dealing with the Indians our aim should be their ultimate absorption into the body of our people. In many cases this absorption must and will be very slow. In portions of the Indian territory the mixture of blood has gone on at the same time with the improvement in health and education, so that there are plenty of men with varying degrees of ability of Indian blood. These are other tribes which have yet made no perceptible advance toward social equality. To try to force such tribes too fast is to retard their progress. The tribes live under widely different conditions. Where a tribe has made some advance in agriculture, stock raising, or other lines, it is possible to allot the members lands in severalty such as is done in the United States. There are other tribes where such a course is not desirable. On the Indian prairie lands the effort should be to induce the Indians to raise pastures, raise stock, and to permit them to settle in villages rather than to force them into reservations.

**RURAL FREE DELIVERY.**  
The striking increase in the revenues of the post office department, and the increasing activity of the business of the country, are a most gratifying fact. The receipts of the post office department for the fiscal year ending June 30 last amounted to \$218,849,072, an increase of \$26,853,000 over the year 1901, the largest increase known in the history of the postal service. The magnitude of this increase will best appear from the fact that the entire postal receipts for the year 1890 amounted to but \$25,957,907.

**PROTECTION FOR RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.**  
A properly applied system of protection of the lives and limbs of railway employees, which was passed in 1888, has been amended and strengthened. It has resulted in averting thousands of casualties. Experience shows, however, the necessity of additional legislation to perfect this law. It is hoped that the congress will make liberal appropriations for the continuance of the service already established and for its further improvement.

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dred and sixty acres of fairly rich and well watered soil, or a much smaller amount of irrigated land, may keep a family in plenty, whereas one could get a living from 100 acres of dry pasture land capable of supporting at the outside only one head of cattle or one cow and a few sheep. In the past great tracts of the public domain have been fenced in by private individuals, and the law forbidding the maintenance or construction of any such unlawful inclosures of public land. For various reasons, there has been a large interference with such inclosures in the past, but ample notice has now been given to the trespassers, and the command of the government will hereafter be used to put a stop to such trespassing.

**Alaska Legislation Asked For.**  
I especially urge upon the congress the need of wise legislation for Alaska. It is not to our credit as a nation that Alaska, which has been in our possession still have as poor a system of laws as is the case. No country has a more extensive possession in mineral wealth, in fisheries, in timber, and also in land available for certain kinds of farming and stock growing. It is a territory of great size and abundant resources, well fitted to support a large permanent population. Alaska needs a good and law which will encourage homesteads and preemptions as will encourage permanent settlement. We should shape legislation with a view not to the exploiting and abandoning of the territory, but to the building up of homes therein. The land laws should be liberal in their provisions, and should induce the actual settler whom we most desire to see take possession of the country. The forest laws should be improved, and, as a secondary but not less important matter, the game also, and at the same time it is imperative that the settlers should be allowed to cut timber, under proper regulations, for their own use. Laws should be enacted to protect the Alaskan fisheries, and against the greed which would destroy them. They should be preserved as a permanent source of food supply. Their management and control should be turned over to the commission of fish and fisheries. Alaska should have a delegate to the congress, and if possible, if a congressional committee could visit Alaska and investigate its needs on the spot.

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