system of managing the forests of the country is being put in operation and a careful study of the whole forestry problem is being conducted throughout the United States. A very extensive and complete exhibit of the agricul-tural and horticultural products of the United States is being prepared for the Paris exposition.

The Philippine Question.

On the 10th of December, 1898, the treaty of peace between the United States and Spain was signed. It pro-vided, among other things, that Spain should cede to the Units! States the archipelago known as the Philippine islands, that the United States should pay to Spain the sum of \$29,000,000 and that the civil rights and political and that the civil rights and political status of the native inhabitants of the territories thus ceded to the United States should be determined by concress. The treaty was ratified by the senate on February C. 1893, and by the government of Spain on March 19 following. The ratifications were exchanged on the lith of April and the treaty, publicly programed. On the treaty publicly proclaimed. On the second of March the congress voted the sum contemplated by the treaty, and the amount was paid over to the Spanish government on the first of

In this manner the Philippines came to the United States, The islands were ceded by the government of Spain, which had been in undisputed pos-session of them for centuries. They were accepted not mercly by our au-thorized commissioners in Paris, under the direction of the executive, but by the constitutional and well-considered action of the representatives of the people of the United States in both houses of congress. I had every reason to believe and I still believe that this transfer of sovereignty was in accordance with the wishes and the aspira-tion of the great mass of the Filipino

Prom the earliest moment no oppor tunity was lost of assuring the becole of the islands of our ardent desire for their welfare and of the intention of this government to do everything pos-sible to advance their interests. In my order of May 19, 1898, the commander of the military expedition despatched to the Philippines was instructed to declare that we came not to make war upon the people of that contry "nor upon any party or faction among them. but to protect them in their homes, in their employments, and in their per-sonal and religious rights." That there should be no doubt as to the para-mount authority there on the 17th of August it was directed that "there must be no joint occupation with the insurgents;" that the United States must preserve and protect persons and property within the territory occupied by their military and naval forces; that the insurgents and all others must recognize the military occupation and authority of the United States.

As early as December 4, before the cession and in anticipation of that event, the commander in Manila was urged to restore peace and tranquility and to undertake the establishment of a eneficent government, which should the full of the following the following the following transition. afford the fullest security for life and

On the 21st of December, after the treaty was signed, the commander of the forces of occupation was instructed to announce and proclaim in the most public manner that we come, not as invaders and conquerors, but as friends to protect the natives in their homes their employment and in their personal religious rights." On the same day,

religious rights." On the same day, while ordering General Otis to see that the peace be preserved in Ilo Ilo, he was admonished that "It is most important that there should be no conflict with the Insurgents."

On the first day of January, 1899, argent orders were relterated that the kindly intentions of this government should be in every possible way communicated to the insurgents.

Manile Commission.

Manila Commission. On the 21st of January I announced my intention of dispatching to Manila a commission composed of three gen-tlemen of the highest character and thoroughly acquainted with Admiral Dewey and Major General Otis, were instructed "to facilitate the most humane and effective exten-sion of authority throughout the islands and to secure with the least possible delay the benefits of a wise and generous protection of life and property to

These gentlemen were Dr. Jacob Gould Schurman, president of Corned university; the Hon. Charles Denby, for many years minister to China, and Professor Dean v. Worcester of the University of Michigan, who had made a most careful study of life in the Philippines. While the treaty of peace was under consideration in the senate these commissioners set out on their mission of good will and liberation. Their character was a sufficient guarantee of the beneficent purpose with which they went even if they had not borne the positive instructions of this government, which made their errand eminently one of peace and friend-

But before their arrival at Manila the sinister ambition of a few leaders of the Filipinos had created a situation full of embarrassment for us and most grievous in its consequences to them-selves. The clear and impartial preliminary report of the commissioners, which I transmit herewith, gives such lucid and comprehensive history of the present insurrectionary movement story need not be here rebeated. It is enough to say that the claim of the rebel leader, that he was promised independence by any of the United States in return or his assistance, has no foundation in fact, and is contradicted by the very itnesses who were called to prove it. What the insurgent leader hoped for when he came back to Manila was the liberation of the islands from the Spanish control, which they had been laboring for years without success to

## The Insurgent Leader.

The prompt accomplishment of this work by the American army and navy gave him other ideas and ambitions, and insidious suggestions from various quarters perverted the purposes and in-tentions with which he had taken up arms. No sooner had our army cap-tured Manila than the Filipino forces began to assume an attitude of Euspicion and hostility which the utmost efforts of our officers and troops were unable to disarm or modify. Their kindness and forbearance were taken as proof of cowardice. The aggres-sions of the Filipinos continually intreased until finally, just before the time set by the senate of the United tates for a vote upon the treaty, an tttack, evidently prepared in advance, vas made all along the American lines, which resulted in a terribly destruc tive and sanguinary repulse of the in-

The Filipino Plot. Ten days later an order of the insurgent government was issued to its ad-herents who had remained in Manila, of which General Otis justly observes that "for barbarous intent it is un-squalled in modern times." It directs that at \$ o'clock on the night of the 15th of February, the "territorial mili-tia" shall come together in the streets San Pedro, armed with their with guns and ammunition where convenient; that Filipino families only shall be respected; but that all other individuals, of whatever race they may be, shall be exterminated without any passion, after the extermination of army of occupation, and adds Brothers, we must avenge ourselves the Americans and exterminate them that we may take our revenge for the infamies and treacheries which they have committed upon us. Have compassion upon them; attack

the rising, which was actually attempted on the night of February 22, a week later than was originally contemplated. Considerable numbers of armed insurgents entered the city by waterways and swamps and in concert with con-federates inside attempted to destroy Manila by fire. They were kept in check during the night and the next day driven out of the city with heavy

This was the unhappy condition of affairs which confronted our commissioners on their arrival in Manila. They had come with the hope and intention of co-operating with Admiral Dewey of co-operating with Admirat Dewey and Major-General Otts in establishing peace and order in the archipelago and the largest measure of self-government compatible with the true welfare of the people. What they actually found can 'est be set forth in their own species.

## War Unavoidable.

"Deplorable as war is, the one in which we are now engaged was un-avoidable by us. We were attacked by a bold, adventurous and enthusiastic army. No alternative was left to us

army. No alternative was left to us except ignominious retreat.

"It is not to be conceived of that any American would have sanctioned the surrender of Manila to the insurgents. Our obligations to other nations and to the friendly Filipinos and to ourselves and our flag demanded that force should be met by force. Whatever the future of the Philippines may be, there is no course open to us now except the prosecution of the war until the insurgents are reduced to until the insurgents are reduced to submission. The commission is of the opinion that there has been no time since the destruction of the Spanish squadron by Admiral Dewey when it was possible to withdraw our forces from the islands either with honor to ourselves or with safety to the inhabi-

## Rebellion Must Be Crushed.

The course thus clearly indicated has been unflinchingly pursued. The re-bellion must be put down. Civil gov-ernment cannot be thoroughly estab-lished until order is restored. With a devotion and gallantry worthy of its most brilliant history, the army, ably and loyally assisted by the navy, has carried on this unwelcome but most righteous campaign with richly de-served success. The noble self-sacri-fice with which our soldiers and satiors, whose terms of service had expired, refused to avail themselves of their right to return home as long as they were needed at the frent being the brightest pages in our annals. Although their operations have been somewhat interrupted and checked by a rainy season of unusual violence and duration, they have gained ground steadily in every direction, and now look forward confidently to a speedy completion of their task.

## Island of Negros.

The unfavorable circumstances connected with an active campaign have not been permitted to interfere with the equally important work of reconstruction. Again I invite your atten-tion to the report of the commission-ers for the interesting and encouraging details of the work already accom-plished in the establishment of peac and order and the inauguration of selfgoverning muricipal life in many por dons of the archipelago. A notable beginning has been made in the estab-dishment of a government in the island of Negros, which is deserving of special consideration. This was the first island to accept American sovereignty. Its people unreservedly proclaimed alle-giance to the United States and adoptd a constitution looking to the establishment of a popular government. It was impossible to guarantee to the people of Negros that the constitution so ers, no one of which could permit anadopted should be the ultimate form of government. Such a question, under the treaty with Spain and in ac-cordance with our own constitution and laws, came exclusively within the jurisdiction of the congress. The govern-ment actually set up by the inhabitants of Negros eventually proved unsatisfactory to the natives themselves. new system was put into force by order of the major general command-ing the department, of which the following are the most important ele-

It was ordered that the government of the Island of Negros should consist of a military governor appointed by the United States military governor of the Philippines, and a civil governor and an advisory council elected by the people. The military governor was authorized to appoint secretaries of the treasury, interior, agriculture nublic instruction, an attorney general and The seat of government was fixed at Bacalor. The military governor exercises the supreme execuive power. He is to see that the laws are executed, appoint to office and fill all vacancies in office not otherwise provided for, and may, with the approval of the military governor of the Philippines, remove any officer from The civil governor advises the military governor on all public civil questions and presides over the advis-He, in general, performs he duties which are performed by secretaries of state in our own system of

The advisory council consists of cight members elected by the people within territorial limits which are defined in the order of the commanding general.

## As to Elections.

The times and places of holding elec-ions are to be fixed by the military governor of the island of Negros. qualifications of voters as follows: A voter must be a male citizen of

the island of Negros.

2. Of the age of 21 years.

3. He shall be able to speak, read and write the English, Spanish or Visayan language, of he must own real property worth \$500, or pay a rental on real property of the value of \$1,000. 4. He must have resided in the island not less than one year preceding, and in the district in which he offern three months preceding the time he offers to register.

must register at a time fixed by law before voting.

6. Prior to such registration be shall have paid all taxes due by him to the government. Frovided, that no in-sane person shall be allowed to regis-

## ter or vote. Burden of Government.

The military governor has the right o veto all bills or resolutions adopted advisory council, and his is final if not disapproved by the mili-tary governor of the Philippines. The advisory council discharges all the ordinary duties of a legislature. The usual duties pertaining to said of-

fices are to be performed by the sec-retaries of the treasury, interior, agri-

culture, public instruction, the attorgeneral and the auditor. The Judicial power is vested in three judges, who are to be appointed by the military governor of the island. Inferior courts are to be established. 'ree public schools are to be established throughout the populous dis-tricts of the island, in which the Eng-lish language is to be taught, and this subject will receive the careful con-sideration of the advisory council. burden of government must be distributed equally and equitably among the people. The military au-thorities will collect and receive the

and trade and commerce The military governor, subject to he approval of the military governor. Philippines, determines all s not specifically provided for and which do not come under the jurisdiction of the advisory council.

customs revenue and will control pos-

Sulu Islands.

On the tenth of August, 1899, Brigadler General Bates, United States volun-teers, negotiated an agreement with the sultan and his principal chiefs, which I transmit herewith:

By article 10 sovereignty of the Unit-d States over the whole archipelago of Jolo and its dependencies is declared and acknowledged. The United States flag will be used in the archi-pelago and its dependencies, on land and on sen. Piracy is to be suppressed, and the sultan agrees to co-operate heartily with the United States authorities to that end and to make every possible effort to arrest and bring to justice all persons engaged in piracy. All trade in domestic products of the archipelago of Jele when carried on with any part of the Philippine islands and inder the American flag shall be free, unlimited and undutiable. The United States will give full protection to the sultan in case any foreign nato the sultan in case any foreign ha-tion should attempt to impose upon him. The United States will not sell the island of Jolo or any other islands of the archipelago to any foreign na-tion without the sultan's consent. Salaries for the sultan and his asso-ciates in the administration of the islands have been agreed upon to the

amount of \$100 monthly.

Article 10 provides that any slave in Article 10 provides that any slave in the archipelago of Jolo shall have the right to purchase freedom by paying to the master the usual market value. The agreement 'v General Bates was made subject to confirmation by the president and to future modifications by the consent of the parties in inter-

have confirmed said agreement subject to the action of congress and with the reservation, which I have directed shall be communicated to the sultan of Jolo, that this agreement is not to be deemed in any way to au-authorize or give the consent of the United States to the existence of sla-very in the Sulu archipelago. I communicate these facts to the congress for its information and action.

Life in the Archipelago.

Everything indicates that with the speedy suppression of the Tagalo re-bellion, life in the archipelago will soon resume its ordinary course under the protection of our sovereignty, and the people of those favored islands will en-oy a prosperity and a freedom which have never before known, Althey have never before known. Air-ready hundreds of schools are open and filled with children. Religious freedom is sacredly assured and enjoyed. The United States courts are dispensing justice. Business is beginning to circulate in its accustomed channels. Ma-nila, whose inhabitants were fleeing to

the country a few months ago, is now a populous and thriving market of commerce. The earnest and unremitting endeavors of the commission and the admiral and major general com-manding the department of the Pacific to assure the people of the beneficent intentions of this government have had their legitimate effect in convincing the great mass of them that peace and safety and prosperity and stable gov-ernment can only be found in a loyal acceptance of the authority of the United States.

Cannot Desert Philippines.

The future government of the Philippines rests with the congress of the United States. Few graver responsi-bilities have ever been confided to us. If we accept them in a spirit worthy of our race and our traditions, a great opportunity comes with them. The islands lie under the shelter of our flag. They are ours by every title of law and equity. They cannot be aban-doned. If we desert them, we leave them at once to anarchy and finally to other to seize them unquestioned. Their rich plains and valleys would be the scene of endless strife and bloodshed. The advent of Dewey's fleet in Manila Bay, instead of being, as we hope, the dawn of a new day of free-dom and progress, will have been the beginning of an era of misery and violence worse than any which has dark-ened their unhappy past. The suggestion has been made that we could renounce our authority over the islands, and giving them independence, could retain a protectorate over them. This proposition will not be found, I am worthy of your serious attention. Such an arrangement would involve the outset a cruel breach of faith. It would place the peaceable and loyal majority, who ask nothing better than accept our authority, at the mercy the minority of armed insurgents. It would make us responsible for the acts of the insurgent leaders and give us no power to control them. It w charge us with the task of protecting them against each other and defending them against any foreign power with which they chose to quarrel. In short, it would take from the congress of the United States the power of declaring war and vest that tremendous prerogative in the Tagal leader of the hour.

Freedom and Order. does not seem desirable that should commend at this time a speciand final form of government these islands. When peace shall be restored it will be the duty of congress to construct a plan of government which shall establish and maintain edom and order and peace in the Philippines, The insurrection is existing, and when it terminates fur-ther information will be required as to the actual condition of affairs before inaugurating a permanent scheme of civil government. The full report of the commission, now in prepara-tion, will contain information and suggestions which will be of value to congress, and which I will transmit as roon as it is completed. As long as the insurrection continues the military arm must necessarily be supreme, But there is no reason why steps should not be taken from time to time to inaugurate governments essentialpopular in their form as fast territory is held and controlled by our troops. To this end I am considering the advisability of the return of the commission, or such of the members thereof as can be secured, to aid the existing authorities and facilitate this work throughout the islands. I have believed that reconstruction rhould not begin by the establishment of one certral civil government for all the islands, with its seat at Manila, but rather that the work should be commenced by building up from the bottom, first establishing municipat governments and then provincial governments, a central government at last

## Will Uphold the Flag.

Until congress shall have made known the formal expression of its will I shall use the authority vested in me by the constitution and the statutes to uphold the sovereignty of the United States in these distant islands as in all other places where our flag rightfully floats. I shall put at the disposal of the army and navy all the means which the liberality of congress and the people have provided to cause this unprovoked and wasteful insurrection to cease. If any orders of mine were required to insure the nerciful conduct of military and naval operations, they would not be lacking; but every step of the progress of our troops has been marked by a humanity which has surprised even the misguid-ed insurgents. The truest kindness to them will be a swift and effective de feat of their present leader. The hou matters and Philippine inter-ialof victory will be the hour of clemency and reconstruction.

No effort will be spared to build up

the waste places desciated by war and by long years of misgovernment. We shall not wait for the end of We shall not wait for the end of strife to begin the beneficent work. We shall continue, as we have begun. to open the schools and the churches, to set the courts in operation, to fos-A copy of this fell, by good fortune.

A copy of this fell, by good fortune, into the hands of our officers and the have accepted the succession of the were able to take measures to control. United States to the rights of Spain make these people whom providence

our power, their welfare and not our gain, we are seeking to enhance. Our flag has never waved over any community but in blessing. I believe the Filiphos will soon recognize the fact that it has not lost its gift of benediction in its world-wide journey to which I have recommended. their shores.

## Hawaii.

Some embarrassment in administration has occurred by reason of the peculiar status which the Hawaiian islands at present occupy under the joint resolution of unnexation, approved July 7, 1898.

While by that resolution the republic

of Hawali, as an independent nation was extinguished, its separate sover-cignty destroyed, and its property and possessions vested in the United States, yet a complete establishment for its government under our system was not effected. While the municipal hws of the islands not enacted for the fulfiliment of treaties and not inconsistent with the joint resolution or contrary to the constitution of the United States or any of its treaties remain in force, yet these laws relate only to the social and internal affairs of the islands, and do not touch many subjects of im-portance which are of a broader naand do not touch many subjects of im-portance which are of a broader na-tional character. For example, the Hawaiian republic was divested of all title to the public lands in the islands, and is not only unable to dispose of lands to settlers desiring to take up homestead sites, but is without power to give complete title in cases where lands have been entered upon under lease or other conditions which carry lease or other conditions which carry with them the right to the purchaser, lessee or settler to have a full title granted to him upon compliance with the conditions prescribed by law or by his particular agreement of entry.

Questions of doubt and difficulty have also arisen with reference to the have also arisen with reference to the collection of tonnage tax on vessels coming from Hawaiian ports; with reference to the status of Chinese in the islands, their entrance and exit therefrom; as to patents and copyrights; as to the register of vessels under the navigation laws; as to the necessity of holding elections in accordcessity of holding elections in accordance with the provisions of the Ha-walian statutes for the choice of various officers, and as to several other matters of detail touching the inter-ests both of the island and of the fed-

eral government. By the resolution of annexation the president was directed to appoint five commissioners to recommend to con-gress such legislation concerning the islands as they should deem necessary or proper. These commissioners were duly appointed, and after a careful investigation and study of the system of aws and government prevailing in the slands, and of the conditions existing there, they prepared a bill to provide a government under the title of "The Territory of Hawait." The report of the commission, with the bill which they prepared, was transmitted by me to congress on Decfi 6, 1898, but the bill still awaits final action.

still awaits final action.

The people of these Islands are entitled to the henefits and privileges of our constitution, but in the absence of any act of congress providing for federal courts in the islands, and for a procedure by which appeals writs of error and other judicial proceedings necessary for the enforcement of civil rights may be prosecuted, they are powerless to secure their enforcement by the judgment of the courts of the United States. It is manifestly important, therefore, that an act shall be passed as speedly as possible erect-ing these islands into a judicial district, providing for the appointment of a judge and other proper officers and methods of procedure in appellate proceedings and that the government of this newly acquired territory under the federal constitution shall be fully de-fined and provided for.

## Alaska.

A necessity for immediate legislative relief exists in the territory of Alaska.

Substantially the only law providing a civil government for this territory is the act of May 17, 1884. This is meagre in its provisions, and is fitted only for the administration of affairs in a country sparsely inhabited by executive department, should be supercivilized people and unimportant in seded by an administration entirely

The increase in population by emigration during the past few years, consequent upon the discovery of gold, has produced such a condition as calls for more ample facilities for local self government and more veniences of civil and judicial administration. Settlements have grown up various places, constituting in point population and business cities of thousands of inhabitants, yet there is no provision of law under which a municipality can be organized or main-

In some localities the inhabitants have met together and voluntarily formed a municipal organization for the purposes of local government, adopting the form of a municipal constitution and charter, under which said officials have been appointed; and ordinances creating and regulating a police force, a fire department a de-partment of health, and making provision for the care of the insane and undigent poor and sick and for pub-lic schools, have been passed. These proceedings and the ordinances passed by such municipalities are without statutory authority and have no sanc-tion, except as they are maintained by the popular scattment of the community. There is an entire absence of authority to provide the ordinary munity. instruments of local police control and administration, the population con-sisting of the usual percentage of lawless adventurers of the class that at-ways flock to new fields of enterprise or discovery and under circumstances which require more than ordinary provison for the maintenance of peace

good order and lawful conduct.

The whole vast area of Alaska comprises but one judicial district, with one judge, one marshal, and one district attorney, yet the civil and crimina! business has more than doubled within the past year, and is many times greater in volume and importance than it was in 1884. The duties of the judge require bim to travel thousands of miles to discharge his ju-dicial duties at the various places designated for that purpose. The territory should be divided into at least two districts, and an additional judge.

district attorney, marshal, and other appropriate efficers be provided.

There is practically no organized form of government in the territory. There is no authority, except in congress, to pass any law, no matter how local or trivial and the difficulty of conveying to the congress an adequate conception and understanding of the various needs of the people in the dif-ferent communities is easily under-I see no reason why a more complete form of territorial organiza-tion should not be provided. Follow-ing the precedent established in the year 1805, when a temporary govern-ment was provided for the recently acquired territory, then known under the name of Louisiana, it seems to me that it would be advantageous to confer greater executive power upon the rnor and to establish, as was done In the case of the territory of Louisiana, a legislative council having power to adopt ordinances which shall excal legislation, such ordinances not to take effect until reported to and ap-proved by the congress if in session, and if that body is not in session, then by the president. In this manner a system of laws providing for the incorporation and government of towns and cities having a certain population, giving them the power to establish and maintain a system of education to

brought within our jurisdiction the territory. It is probable that the that it is their liberty and not area is too vast and the population too

I recommend that legislation to the same end be had with reference to the government of Porto Rico. The time is ripe for the adoption of a temporary form of government for this island. and many suggestions made with ref-efence to Alaska, are applicable also to Porto Rico.

crence to Alaska, are applicable also to Porto Rico.

The system of civil jurisprudence now adopted by the people of this island is described by competent lawyers who are familiar with it, as thoroughly modern and scientific, so far as it relates to matters of internal business, trade, production and social and private right in general. The cities of the island are governed under charters which probably require very little or no change. So that with relation to matters of local concern and brivate right, it is not probable that much, if any, legislation is desirable; but with reference to public administration and the relations of the islar to the federal government, there are many matters which are of pressislar to the federal government, ther are many matters which are of press ing urgency. The same necessity exgress to establish federal courts and federal jurisdiction in the island as has been previously pointed out by me with reference to Hawaii. Besides the administration of justice, there are the subjects of the public lands; the control and improvement of rivers and harbors; the control of the waters or streams not navigable, which, under the Spanish law belonged to the crown of Spain, and have by the treaty of or spath, and have by the treaty of cession passed to the United States; the immigration of people from foreign countries; the importation of contract labor; the imposition and collection of internal revenue; the application of the navigation laws; the regulation of the navigation laws; the regulation of the current money; the establishment of postoffices and post roads; the regulation of tariff rates on merchandise imported from the island into the United States; the establishment of ports of entry and delivery; the regulation of patents and copyrights; these, with various other subjects which rest entirely within the power of the congress, call for careful consideration and imcall for careful consideration and immediate action.

It must be borne in mind that since

cession Porto Rico has been denied the principal markets she had long enjoyed and our tariffs have been continued against her products as when she was under Spanish sovereignty. The markets of Spain are closed to her products except upon to which the commerce of all terms to which the commerce of all nations is subjected. The island of Cuba, which used to buy her cattle and tobacco without customs duties, now imposes the same duties upon these products as from any other country entering her ports. She has therefore lost her free intercourse with Spain and Cuba without any compensating benefits in the market. Her coffee was little known and not in use by our people, and therefore there was no demand here for this, one of her chief products. The markets of the United States should opened up to her products. Our plain duty is to abolish all customs tariffs between the United States and Porto Rico and give her products free acess to our markets

As a result of the hurricane which swept over Porto Rico on the 8th of August, 1899, over 100,000 people were reduced to absolute destitution, without homes and deprived of the neces-saries of life. To the appeal of the war department, the people of the United States made prompt and gener-ous response. In addition to the pri-vate charity of our people the war department has expended for the re-lief of the distressed \$392,342.83, which

trade and production, as was Alaska civil in its nature. For present purat the time this act passed. a law for the organization of a temporary government, which shall pro-vide for the appointment by the president, subject to confirmation by senate, of a governor and such other officers as the general administration for legislative purposes upon subjects of a local nature not partaking of a federal character a legislative council, composed partly of Porto Ricans and partly of citizens of the United States shall be nominated by the president, subject to confirmation by the senate their acts to be subject to the ap proval of the congress or the president prior to going into effect. In the mu-nicipalities and other local sub-divisions I recommend that the principal of local self government be applied at once, so as to enable the intelligen citizens of the island to participate their own government and to learn by practical experience the duties and requirements of a self contained and self governing people. I have not thought it wise to commit the entire selected by the people, because I doubt whether in habits, training and ovperience they are such as to fit them to exercise at once such large degree of self government: but it is my judgment and expectation that they soon arrive at an attainment of experience and wisdom and self control that will justify conferring upon them a much larger participation in the choice of their insular officers.
The fundamental requirement

these people, as for all people, is edu-cation. The free school house is the best preceptor for citizenship. In the introduction of modern educational methods care, however, must be exer-cised that changes be not made too abrutly and that the history and racial peculiarities of the inhabitants shall be given due weight. Systems of education in these new possessions found ed upon common sense methods, adapted to existing conditions and looking to the future moral and industrial advancement of the people, will commend to them in a peculiarly effective manner the blessings of free government. The lave of law and the sense of obedience and submission to the lawfully constituted judicial tribunals are embedded in the bearing of our records. embedded in the hearts of our people, and any violation of these sentiments and disregard of their obligations justly arouses public condemnation. The guarantees of life, liberty, and of civil rights should be faithfully upheld; the

## right of trial by jury respected and de-Lynching Condemned.

The rule of the courts should assure the public of the prompt trial of those charged with criminal offenses, and upon conviction the punishment should be commensurate with the enormity of the crime.

Those who, in disregard of law and the public peace, unwilling to await the judgment of a court and jury, constitute themselves judges and execu-tioners, should not escape the severest benalties for their crimes.

What I said in my inaugural address of March 4, 1897, I now repeat:
"The constituted authorities must be cheerfully and vigorously upheld.
Lynchings must not be tolerated in a great and civilized country like the great and civilized country like the United States. Courts, not mobs, must execute the penalties of the laws The preservation of public order, the right of discussion, the integrity of courts, and the orderly administration

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have appointed a committee consisting of the governors of all the states and territories of the United States, who have been invited to assemble in the Restore Vitality, Lost Vigor and Manhood city of Washington December 21, 1899, which, with the committees of the con-gress and the District of Columbia are

charged with the proper conduct of this celebration. Congress at its last session appropriated \$5,000 to enable the chief of en-gineers of the army to continue the examination of the subject and to make or secure designs, calculations and es-timates for a memorial bridge from the most convenient point of the naval observatory grounds, and adjacent thereto, across the Potomac river to the most convenient point of the Ar-

lington estate property.
In accordance with the provisions of this act the chief of engineers has selected four eminent bridge engineers to submit competitive designs for a bridge combining the elements of strength and durability and such ar-chitectural embellishment and ornamentation as will fifty apply to the dedication, "a memorial to American patriotism." The designs are now being prepared, and as soon as completed vill be submitted to the congress by he secretary of war. The proposed bridge would be a con-

venience to all the people from every part of the country who visit the National cemetery, an ornament to apitol of the nation and forever stand as a monument to American patriotism. do not doubt that congress will give enterprise still further proof of its favor and approval.

## Civil Service. The executive order of May 5, 1896,

extending the limits of the classified service brought within the operation of the civil service law and rules near-ly all of the executive civil service rules nearly all of the executive civil service not previously classified.
Some of the inclusions were found wholly illogical and unsuited to the work of the several departments. The application of the rules to many of places so included was found to result in friction and embarrassment. After long and very careful consideration it became evident to the heads of the departments, responsible for their efficiency, that in order to remove these difficulties and promote an efficient and harmonious administration, certain amendments were necessary These amendments were promulgated by me in executive order date 29, The principal purpose of the order was to except from competifive examination certain places involving fiduic ary responsibilities or duties of a strictly confidential, scientific, or ex-ecutive character, which it was thought might better be filled either by noncompetitive examination, or in the dis-cretion of the appointing office, than by open competition. These places were comparatively few in number. The order -wides for the filling of a much larger number of places, mainly in the outside places of the war department by what is known as the registration system under regulations to be approved by the president similar to those which have produced such admirable results in the navy yards service.
All of the amendments have for their
main object a more efficient and satis-

factory administration of the system of appointments established by the civil service law. The results attained show that under their operation the public service has improved and that the civil service system is relieved of many objectionable features which heretofore subjected it to just criticism and the administrative officers to the charge of unbusinesslike methods in the conduct of public affairs. It is believed that the merit system has been greatly strengthened and its pergiving them the power to establish and maintain a system of education to be locally supported and ordinances providing for police, sanitary and other er such purposes, could be speedily provided.

I believe a provision of this kind would be satisfactory to the people of the maintain a system of education to fustice must continue forever the stant aim in the administration of safety upon which our government in our new possessions to make fitness, character and toerit essential to appointment to office, and the orderly administration of stant aim in the administration of shamokin. Fe. writes: "I am eighty coars of age. I have been troubled with to give to the capable and deserving into the capable and des manence assured. It will be my con-stant aim in the administration of government in our new possessions to

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Washington. For a hundred years the republic has had the priceless advant-age of the lofty standard of character and conduct which be bequeathed to the American people. It is an inheritance which time, instead of wasting it, continually increases and enriches. We may justly hope that in the years to come the benignant influence of the father of his country may be even more potent for good than in the cen-tury which is drawing to a close, I have been glad to learn that in many parts of the country the people will fittingly observe this historic anniver-

Presented to this congress are great opportunities. With them come great responsibilities. The power confided to us increases the weight of our obligations to the people, and we must be profoundly sensible to them as we contemplate the new and grave problems which confront us. Alming only at the public good, we cannot err. A right interpretation of the people's will and of duty cannot fall to insure wise measures for the welfare of the islands which have come under the authority of the United States and inure to the our country. Never has this nation had more abundant cause than during the past year for thankfulness to God for manifold blessings and mercies, for which we make reverent acknowledgement.

WILLIAM M'KINLEY. Executive Mansion, Dec. 5, 1899,

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