THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL MESSAGE

Mr. McKinley's Views on [Many Problems of National Interest.

THEME FOR CONSIDERATION

Colonial Expansion, Gold Standard and Increase of Banking Facilities Among the Topics for Thought. Favors the Increase of the Navy and Development of the Merchant Marine-Pledge of the United States to Grant Independence to Cuba Must Be Redeemed When the Inhabitants Are in Proper Condition for Self-Government-Recommendations Looking to Improvement in Porto Rico-The Trust Problem-Our Duty to New Posses-

The president's message to the Fiftyfixth congress is as follows:

To the Senate and House of Represen-

At the threshold of your delibera-tions you are called to mourn with your countrymen the death of Vice-President Hobart, who passed from this life on the morning of Nov. 21 last. His great soul now rests in eternal peace. His private life was pure and elevated, while his public career was ever dis-tinguished by large capacity, stainless integrity, and exalted motives. He has peen removed from the high office which he honored and dignified by his ofty character, his devotion to duty his honesty of purpose, and noble vir-tues remain with us as a priceless legacy and example

The Fifty-sixth congress convenes in its first regular session with the coun-try in a condition of unusual prosperty, of universal good-will among the people at hime and in relations of peace and friendship with every gov-ernment of the world. Our foreign commerce has shown great increase in volume and value. The combined im-ports and exports for the year are the largest ever shown by a single year in all our history. Our exports for 1899 alone exceeded by more than a billion dollars our imports and exports combired in 1870. The imports per capita are 20 per cent, less than in 1870, while the exports per capita are 58 per cent. more than in 1370, showing the en-larged capacity of the United States to satisfy the wants of its own increasing population, as well as to contribute to those of the peoples of other nations. Exports of agricultural products were \$784,776,142. Of manufactured products we exported in value \$339,592,146, being larger than any previous year. It is a noteworthy fact that the only years in all our history when the products of our manufactories sold abroad exceed-

Government receipts from all sources for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899 including \$11,758,314.14, part payment of the Central Pacific rallroad indebtedness, asgregated \$610.982,004.35. Customs receipts were \$200,128,481.75, and fall to reall the receipts were \$200,128,481.75, and fall to reall the receipts were \$200,128,481.75. those from internal revenue \$273,437,-

For the fiscal year the expenditures \$700,593,564.02, leaving a deficit of

The secretary of the treasury estimates that the receipts for the current fiscal year will aggregate \$649,953,112, and upon the basis of present appro-priations the expenditures will aggregate \$600,958,112, leaving a surplus of

the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899, the internal revenue receipts were increased about \$100,000,000.

The present gratifying strength of the treasury is shown by the fact that on December 1, 1899, the available cash was \$278,004,837,72, of which \$239,744,905.36 was in gold coin and bul-lion. The conditions of confidence lion. The conditions or country which prevail throughout the country have brought gold into more general and customs receipts are now almost entirely paid in that coin.

Buying Bonds.

The strong position of the treasury with respect to cash on hand, and the favorable showing made by the reve-nues, have made it possible for the sec-tetary of the treasury to take action under the provisions of Section 3,694. revised statutes, relating to the sink-ing fund. Receipts exceeded expenditures for the first five months of the current fiscal year by \$13,413,309.91, and, as mentioned above, the secretary of the treasury estimates that there will be a surplus of approximately \$40,000.0 of the end of the year. Under such conditions it was deemed advisable and proper to resume compliance with the provisions of the sinking fund law, the provisions of the sinking fund law, which for eight years has not been done, because of deficiencies in the revenues. The treasury department then offered to purchase during November \$25,000,000 of the 5 per cent. loan of 1904 or the 4 per cent, funded loan of 1907, at the current market price. The amount offered and purchased during November was its inchased during November was its inchased during November was \$18,408,-600. The premium paid by the govern-ment on such purchases was \$2,263,521, and the net saving in interest at about \$2,885,000. The success of this opera-tion was sufficient to induce the goverament to continue the offer to pur-chase bonds to and including the 231 day of December, instant, unless the remainder of the \$25,000,000 called for should be presented in the meantime for redemption

Increased activity in industry, with its welcome attendance, a larger employment for labor at higher wages, gives to the body of the people a larger absorb the inedium. It is further true that year by year, with larger areas of land under cultivation, the increasing volume of agricultural products, cotton, corn and wheat, calls for a larger voiume of money supply. This is especial-ly noticeable at the crop harvesting and crop moving period.

The National Banks.

In its earlier history the National Banking Act seemed to prove a reason-able avenue through which needful additions have apparently rendered it now inoperative to that end. The high margin in bond securities required, resulting from large premiums which government bonds command in the narket or the tax on note issues, or both operating together, appear to h the influences which impair its public utility. The attention of congress is respectfully invited to this matter with the view of ascertaining whether or not such reasonable modifications can be made in the National Banking act as will render its service in the par-ticulars here referred to more respon-sive to the people's needs. I again urge that hational banks be authorized to organize with a capital of \$25,000.

I urgently recommend that to sup-port the existing gold standard, and to maintain the parity in value of the coins of the two metals-gold and silver—and the equal power of every dol-lar at all times in the market and in the payment of debts, the secretary of the treasury be given additional power and charged with the duty to sell United States bonds and to employ such other effective means as may be necessary to these ends. The author-ity should include the power to sell bonds on long and short time, as conditions may require, and should provide for a rate of interest lower than that fixed by the Act of January 14, 1875. While there is now no commercial fright which withdraws gold from the government, but on the sentence. government, but on the contrary, h widespread confidence that gold seeks the treasury demanding paper noney in exchange, yet the very ation points to the present as the most fitting time to make adequate provis-lon to insure the continuance of the gold standard and of public confidence in the ability and purpose of the gov-ernment to meet all its obligations in the money which the civilized world recognizes as the best. The financial transactions of the government are conducted upon a gold basis. We receive gold when we sell United States bonds and use gold for their payment. Ve are maintaining the parity of all the money issued or coined by author-ity of the government. We are doing hese things with the means at hand Happily at the present time we are not compelled to resort to loans to supply gold. It has been done in the past, however, and may have to be done in the future. It behooves us, therefore, to provide at once the best means to meet the emergency when it arises, and the best means are those which are the most certain and economical. Those now authorized have the virtue neither f directness nor economy. We have already eliminated one of the cause of our financial plight and embarrass ment during the years 1893, 1894, 1895 and 1896. Our receipts now equal our expenditure, deficient revenues no longer create alarm. Let us remove the only remaining cause by conferring the full and necessary power in the secertary of the treasury and impose upon him the duty to uphoid the present gold standard and preserve the coins of the two metals on a parity with each other, which is the repeatedly declared policy of the United States In this connection I repeat my for mer recommendation that a portion of the gold holdings shall be placed in rust fund from which greenbacks shall be redeemed upon presentation, but when once redeemed shall not here-

after be paid out except in gold. The Merchant Merine.

The value of an American merchant marine to the extension of our com mercial trade and the strengthening of our power upon the sea invites the im mediate action of congress. Our na-tional development will be one-sided and unsatisfactory so long as the remarkable growth of our inland indus-tries remains unaccompanied by progress on the seas. There is no lack of constitutional authority for legislation which shall give to the country maritime strength commensurate with its industrial achievements and with its rank among the nations of the earth. The past year has recorded excep-tional activity in our shipyards, and

the promises of continual prosperity in shipbuilding are abundant. Advanced legislation for the protection of our seamen has been enacted. Our coast trade, under regulations wisely framed at the beginning of the government and since, shows results for the past those of any other power. We shall fall to realize our opportunities, how-ever. If we complacently regard only matters at home and blind ourselves to the necessity of securing our share in the valuable carrying trade of the world. Last year American vessels transported a smaller share of our exports and imports than during any for-mer year in all our history, and the measure of our dependence upon for-eign shipping was painfully manifested to our people. Without any choice of our own, but from necessity, the departments of the government charged with military and naval operations in the East and West Indies has to obtain from foreign sags merchant ves-sels essential for those operations.

other great nations have not hesitated to adopt the required means to develop their shipping as a factor in national defense and as one of the surest and speediest means of obtaining for their producers a share in for eign markets. Like vigilance and effort on our part cannot fail to improve our situation, which is regarded with humiliation at home and with surprise abroad. Even the seeming sacrifices, which at the beginning may be in-volved, will be offset later by more than equivalent gains. The expense is as nothing compared to the advantage to be achieved. The re-establishment of our merchant marine involves in large measure our continued industrial progress and the extension of our commercial triumphs. I am satisfied the judgment of the country favors the policy of aid to our merchant marize, which will broaden our commerce and mark as an upbuilder our sea-carrying capacity for the products of agriculture and manufacture, which, with the crease of our navy, mean more work and wages to our countrymen, as well as a safeguard to American interests in every part of the world.

The Trusts.

Combinations of capital organized nto trusts to control the conditions of trade among our citizens, to stifle com petition, limit production, and deter-mine the prices of products used and consumed by the people, are justly provoking public discussion, and should early claim the attention of the con-

The industrial commission, created by the Act of Congress of June 18, 1898, has been engaged in extended hearings upon the disputed questions involved in the subject of combinations in restraint of trade and competition. They have not yet completed their investigation of this subject, and the conclusions and recommendations at which they may arrive are undetermined.

The subject is one giving rise to many divergent views as to the nature and variety, or cause and extent, of the injuries to the public which may result for the large combinations con-centrating more or less numerous enterprises and establishments, which previously to the formation of the combination were carried on separately.

It is universally conceded that com-binations which engross or control the market of any particular kind of merchandlse or commodity necessary to the general community, by suppressing natural and ordinary whereby prices are unduly enhanced to the general consumer, are obnoxious not only to the common law, but also to the public welfare. There must be a remedy for the evils involved in such organizations. If the present law be extended more certainly to control or check these monopolies or trusts should be done without delay. What-ever power th congress possesses over this most important subject should be

promptly ascertained and asserted.

President Harrison in his annual message of December 3, 1889, says:
"Earnest attention should be given by congress to a consideration of the question how far the restraint of those combinations of capital comments. ombinations trusts is matter of federal

jurisdiction. When organized, as they often are, to crush out all healthy competition and to monopolize the produc tion or sale of an article of commerc and general necessity, they are danger-ous conspiracies against the public good and should be made the subject of the prohibitory and even penal legis-

lation."
An act to protect trade and commerce against unlawful restraint and monopolies was passed by congress on the second of July, 1896. The provisions of this statute are comprehensive and stringent. It declares every contract or combination, in the form of a trust or otherwise, or consultacy in the restraint of trade or commerce among straint of trade or commerce among the several states or with foreign na-tions, to be unlawful. It denominates as a criminal every person who makes any such contract or engages in any such combination or conspiracy, and provides a punishment by fine or im-prisonment. It invests the several cir-cuit courts of the United States with jurisdiction to prevent and restrain violations of the act and makes it the duty of the several United States district attorneys, under the direction of the attorney general, to institute proceedings in equity to prevent and re-strain such violations. It further con-fers upon any person who shall be injured in his business or property by any other person or corporation by rea-son of anything forbidden or declared to be unlawful by the act, the power United States, without respect to the amount in controversy, and to re-cover threefold the damages by him sustained and the costs of the suit, including reasonable attorney fees. It will be perceived that the act is aimed at every kind of combination in the nature of a trust or monopoly in re-straint of inter-state or international

The prosecution by the United States of offenses under the Act of 1890 has been frequently resorted to in the fed-eral courts, and notable efforts in the restraint of interstate commerce such as the trans-Missouri freight associa-tion and the joint traffic association, have been successfully opposed and

President Cleveland in his annual message of December 7, 1896, more than six years subsequent to the passage of this law, after stating the evils of these

trust combinations, said:
"Though congress has been compelled to deal with this matter by legislation, the laws passed for that purpose thus tar have proved ineffective, not because of any lack of disposition or attempt to enforce them, but simply because the laws themselves as interpreted by the courts do not reach the difficulty. If the insufficiencies of existing laws can be remedled by further legislation,

it should be done.
"The fact must be recognized, how ever, that all federal legislation on this subject may fall short of its purpose because of inherent obstacles and also because of the complex character of our governmental system which, while making the federal authority supreme within its sphere, has carefully limited that sphere by metes and bounds which cannot be transgressed. The decision of our highest court on this precise question renders it quite doubtful whether the evils of trusts and monop-blies can be adequately treated through federal action, unless they seek direct-ly and purposely to include in their objects transportation or intercourse etween states or between the United

States and foreign countries.
"It does not follow, however, that this is the limit of the remedy that may be applied. Even though it may be found that federal authority is not broad enough to fully reach the case, there can be no doubt of the power of the several states to act effectively in the premises, and there should be no rea-son to doubt their willingness to judic-

lously exercise such power."

The state legislation to which President Cleveland looked for relief from the evils of trusts has failed to accom-plish fully that object. This is probably due to a great extent to the fact that different states take different views as to the proper way to discrimmate between evil and injurious com-binations and those associations which are beneficent and necessary to the business prosperity of the country. The great diversity of treatment in different states arising from this cause, and the intimate relations of all pacts of the country to each other without regarding state lines in the conduct of isinces, have made the enforcement state laws difficult.

It is apparent that uniformity of legislation upon this subject in the several states is much to be desired. It is to be hoped that such uniformity, foundating with such uniformity, founded in a wise and just discrimination between what is injurious and what is useful and necessary in business operations, may be obtained and that means may be found for the con-gress, within the limitations of its constitutional power, so to supplement an effective code of state legislation as to make a complete system of laws throughout the United States adequate to compel a general observance of the salutary rules to which I have referred. The whole question is so important and far-reaching that I am sure no part of it will be lightly considered, but every will have the studied deliberation of the congress, resulting in wise and judicious action.

Foreign Relations.

A review of our relations with for-eign states is presented with such recommendations as are deemed appro-

The long-pending boundary dispute between the Argentine republic and Chile was settled in March last by the award of an arbitral commission, on which the United States minister at Buenos Ayres served as umpire.

Progress has been made toward the conclusion of a convention of extra-dition with the Argentine republic. Having been advised and consented to the United States senate and railfied by Argentine, it only awaits the adjustment of some slight changes in text before exchange.

In my last annual message I reverted to the claim of the Austro-Hungarian government for indemnity for the killing of certain Austrian and Hungarian subjects by the authorities of the state of Pennsylvania, at Lattimer, while suppressing an unlawful tumult of miners, September 10, 1897. In view of the verdict of acquittal rendered by the court before which the sheriff and his deputies were tried for murder, and following the established doctrine that the government may not be held ac-countable for injuries suffered by individuals at the hands of the public au-thorities while acting in the line of duty in suppressing disturbance of the public peace, this government, after due consideration of the claim advanced by the Austro-Hungarian government,

by the Abstro-Hungarian government, was constrained to decline Hability to indemnify the sufferers.

It is gratifying to be able to announce that the Belgian government has mitigated the restrictions on the importation of cattle from the United States, to which I referred in my last

annual message. annual message.

Having been invited by Belgium to participate in a congress, held at Brussels, to revise the provisions of the general Act of July 2, 1839, for the repression of the African slave trade, to which the United States was a signatory party, this government preferred not to be represented by a pleninotentiary, but reserved the right of acceptions. tiary, but reserved the right of acres. sion to the result. Notable charges were made, those especially concerning this country being in the line of increased restriction of the deleterious trade in spiritous liquors with the mative tribes, which this government has from the outset urgently advocated. The amended general act will be laid before the senate, with a view to its

Early in the year the peace of Bo-

using besides his good offices for the protection of the interests of British subjects in the absence of their national representative. On the establishment of the new government, our minister was directed to enter into re-

General Pando was elected president of Bolivia on Oct. 23. Our representative has been instructed to use all permissible friendly endeavors to induce the government of Bolivia to amend its marriage laws so as to give legal status to the non-Catholic and civil marriages of allens within its jurisdiction, and strong hopes are entertained that the Bolivian law in this regard will be brought, as was that of Peru some years ago, into harmony with the general prac-

tice of modern states.

A convention of extradition with Brazil, signed May 14, 1897, has been ratified by the Brazilian legislature.

During the past summer two national ships of the United States have visited Brazilian ports on a friendly a d been cordially received. T age of the Wilmington up the Amazon river gave rise to a passing mis-understanding, owing to confusion in obtaining permission to visit the in-terior and make surveys in the general interest of navigation, but the incident found a ready adjustment in harmo-y with the close relations of amity which this government has always sedulously sought to cultivate with the com-monwealths of the western continent.

The claim growing out of the seizure of the American owned newspaper, the Panama Star and Herald, by the authorities of Colombia has been settled, after a controversy of several by an agreement asserting at \$30,000 the indemnity to be paid by the Co-lombian government, in three install-ments of \$10,000 each.

The good-will of Colombia toward our country has been testified anew by the cordial extension of facilities to the Nicaragua canal commission in their approaching investigation of the Panama canal and other projected routes across the Isthmus of Darien.

Toward the end of October an insur-

rectionary disturbance developed in the Colombian republic. This movement has thus far not attained any decisive result and is still in progress.

Discussion of questions raised by the action of Denmark in imposing restrictions on the importation of American meat has continued without substantial result in our favor. The neighbor-ing island republic of Santa Domingo has lately been the scene of revolution, following a long period of tranquility. It began with the killing of President Heueaux in July last, and culminated

in the relinquishment by the succeed-ing vice-president of the reins of government to the insurgents. The first act of the provisional government was the calling of a presidential and constituent election. Juan Isidro Jiminez having been elected president, was in-augurated on the 14th of November. Relations have been entered into with the newly established government. The experimental association of Nic-

aragua, and Honduras and Salvador, under the title of the great republic of Central America, when apparently on the threshold of a complete federal or-ganization by the adoption of a constitution and the formation of a na-tional legislature, was disrupted in the last days of November, 1898, by the withdrawal of Salvador. Thereupon Nicaragua and Honduras abandoned the joint compact, each resuming its former independent sovereignty. This was followed by the reception of Minister Merry by the republics of Nic-aragua and Salvador, while Minister Hunter in turn presented his creder tials to the government of Honduras, thus reverting to the old distribution the diplomatic agencies of the United States in Central America, for which our existing statutes provide. A Nicaraguan envoy has been ac-redited to the United States.

An insurrectionary movement under Ge eral Reys broke out at Bluefields in February last and for a time exercised actual control in the Mosquito territory. The Detroit was promptly sent thither for the protection of American interests. After a few weeks, the Reys government renounced the conflict, giving place to the restored supremacy of Nicaragua. During the in-terior trouble certain public dues acruing under Nicaraguan laws were collected from American merchants by the authorities for the time being in effective administrative control. Upon the titular government regaining power a second payment of these dues was demanded. Controversy arose touching the validity of the original payment of the debt to the de facto regent of the territory. An arrangement was ef-fected in April last by the United States minister and the foreign secretary of Nicaragua, whereby the amounts of the duplicate payments were deposited with the British consul, nding an adjustment of the matter by direct agreement between the rnments of the United States and Nic-

aragua, The controversy is still unsettled, The contract of the Maritime Canal company of Nicaragua was declared forfeited by the Nicaraguan govern-ment on the tenth of October on the ground of non-fulfilment within the en years' term stipulated in the con-

The Maritime Canal company has lodged a protest against this action, alleging rights in the premises which appear worthy of consideration. This government expects that Nicaragua will afford the protestants a full and fair hearing upon the merits of the case.

The Nicaragua Canal.

The Nicaragua canal commission which had been ergaged upon the work of examination and survey for a ship canal route across Nicaragua, having completed its labors and made its report, was dissolved on May 31, and on June 19 a new commission known as the Isthmiun canal commission was organized under the terms of the ac approved March 3, 1899, for the purpose of examining the American isthmus with a view to determining the most practicable and feasible route for a ship canal across that isthmus, with

This commission under the presidency of Rear Admiral John G. Walker, United States navy, retired, entered comptly upon the work intrusted to and is now carrying on examinations Nicaragua along the route of the anama canal and in Darien from the Atlantic, in the neighborhood of the Atrato river, to the bay of Panama on the Pacific side. Good progress has been made, but under the law a comprehensive and complete i vestigation s called for, which will require much labor and considerable time for its ac-complishment. The work will be prose-cuted as expeditiously as possible and report made at the earliest practic-

The great importance of this work cannot be too often or too strongly pressed upon the attention of the congress. In my message of a year ago I expressed my views of the necessity of a canal which would link the two great oceans, to which I again invite your consideration. The reasons then presented for early action are even stronger now

A pleasing incident in the relations of this government with that of Chile occurred in the generous assistance given to the warship Newark when in distress in Chilean waters. Not alone in this way has the friendly disposi-tion of Chile found expression. That country has acceded to the convention or the establishment of the bureau of the American republics, in which organization every independent state of

the continent now shares.

The exchange of ratifications of a convention for the revival of United States and Chilean claims commission, and for the adjudication of claims here-

In view of disturbance in the populous provinces of Northern China, where are many of our citizens, and of the imminence of disorder near the capital and toward the seaboard, a guard of marines was landed from the Boston and stationed during last winter in the legation compound at Peking. With was withdraws.

The interests of our citizens in that The interests of our clizens in that vast empire have not been neglected during the past year. Adequate pro-tection has been secured for our mis-sionaries, and some injuries to their

property have been redressed. American capital has sought and found various opportunities of competing to carry out the internal improve-ments which the imperial government is wisely encouraging, and to develop the natural resources of the empire. Our trade with China has continued to grow and our commercial rights under existing treaties have been everywhere maintained during the past year, as they will be in the future.

The extension of the area open to international foreign settlement at Shanghal, and the opening of the ports of Nanking, Tsing-Tat, Kiao-Chia and Tatalana and Tatalana and Tatalana and Tatalana and Tatalana and Tatalana Ta-Lien-Wan to foreign trade and settlement will doubtless afford Ameri-can enterprise additional facilities and new fields, of which it will not be slow to take advantage.
In my message to congress of De-

ember 5, 1898 I urged that the recom mendation that had been made to the speaker of the house of representatives y the secretary of the treasury on June 14, 1898, for an appropriation for a com-mission to study the commercial and industrial co-ditions in the Chinese empire and report as to the opportun-ities for, and obstacles to, the enlargement of markets in China for the raw products and manufactures of the nited States, should receive at your hards the consideration which its im-portance and timeliness merited, but the congress failed to take action. I now repew this recommendation, as the importance of the subject has steadily grown since it was first sub-mitted to you and no time should be lost in studying for ourselves the re-sources of this great field for Ameri-can trade and enterprise.

Friendly with France.

The death of President Faure in Februncy last called forth those sincere expressions of sympathy which befit the relations of two republics as close-ly allied by unbroken historic ties as are the United States and France. Preparations for the representations of the industries, arts, and products of the United States at the world's exposition, to be held in Paris next year continue on an elaborate and comprehensive scale, thanks to the generous appropriation provided by congress and to the friendly interest the French government has shown in furthering typical exhibit of American progress. There has been alloted to the United States a considerable addition of space, which, while placing our country in the first rank among exhibitors, does no suffice to meet the increasingly urgent demands of our manufacturers. The efforts of the commissioner general are ably directed toward a strictly repre sentative display of all that most characteristically marks American improve-ment in the Inventive arts and most adequately shows the excellence of our

In this age of keen rivalry among nations for mastery in commerce, the dectrice of evolution and the rule of the survival of the fittest must be as inexorable in their operation as they are positive in the results they bring about. The place won in the struggle by an industrial people can only be held by unrelaxed endeavors and constant advance in achievement. The present extraordinary impetus in every line of American exportation and the astounding increase in the volume and value of our charges. value of our share in the world's markets may not be attributed to accidental The reasons are not far to seek. They

lie deen in our national character and find expression year by year in every branch of handleraft, in every new device whereby the materials we so abundantly produce are subdued to the artisan's will and made to yield the largest, most practical and most beneicial returns. The American exhibit at Paris should, and I am confident will, be an open volume, whose lessons of skillfully directed endonvor, unfalter-ing energy, and consummate performance may be read by all on every page thus spreading abroad a clearer knowledge of the worth of our productions and the justice of our claim to an im portant place in the markets of the

To accomplish this by judicious seection, by recognition of paramount merit in whatever walk of trade or manufacture it may appear, and by orderly classification and attractive installation is the task of our commis-

The United States government building is approaching completion and no effort will be spared to make it worthy to represent our ration. It has been suggested that a permanent building of similar or appropriate design be erected on a convenient site, already given by the municipality, to serve in ommemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American national institute of our countrymen resorting to Paris for

I am informed by our commissioner general that we shall have in the American sections at Paris over 7,000 exhibitors, from every state in our country, a number ten times as great as those which were represented at as those which were represented at Vienna in 1873, six times as many as those in Paris in 1878, and four times as many as those who exhibited in Paris in 1889. This statement does not include the exhibits from either Cuba Porto Rico or Hawaii, for which arrangements have been made.

A number of important international

congresses on special topics a ring public interests are proposed to be held Paris next summer in connection with the exposition, Effort will be made to have the several technical branches of our administration efficiently represented at those confer each in its special line, particularly at the congresses of public charity and

German Relations.

Our relations with Germany continue to be most cordial. The increasing in-timacy of direct association has been marked during the year by the granting permission in April for the landing on our shores of a cable from Borkum Emden, on the North sea, by way of the Azores, and also by the conclusion on Sept. 2 of a parcels post convention with the German empire. In all that promises closer relations of intercourse and commerce and a better under-standing between two races having so many traits in common, Germany can be assured of the cordial co-operation of this government and people. may be rivals in many material paths, but our rivalry should be generous and open, ever aiming toward the attale-ment of larger results and the mutual-ly beneficial advancement of each in e line of its especial adaptabilities.

The several governments of the emtional execulence of our food produc-tions and to accept the evidence we constantly tender of the care with which their purity is guarded by rigid inspection from the farm, through the slaughter house and the packing es-tablishments, to the port of shipment. Our system of control over exported food staples invites examination from any quarter and challenges respect by its efficient thoroughness,

livia was disturbed by a successful insurerction. The United States minister remained at his post, attending to the American interests in that quarter, and the necessity for fresh action by the life health and to insure the purity and proceeded with, some of which were so

Jonas Long's Sons' Store News

Second Anniversary--- December 11.

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AS TO DELIVERIES: -- WE DE-LIVER ALL GOODS FREE, NO MAT-TER WHERE YOU LIVE. MAKE PURCHASES NOW, IF YOU WISH-WE'LL DELIVER WHENEVER YOU SAY, MAIL ORDERS AND INQUI-RIES BY MAIL GIVEN THE CARE-FUL ATTENTION OF EXPERTS .--

Oriental Rugs.

JONAS LONG'S SON'S.

The Orient furnishes us with what novelties we get in rugs.

While our own country may set the pace in modern designing, we do not conceive the weird effects, the happy color combinations, the perfect blendlog of shades that comes from the skill of our cousins across

So we buy the oriental rugs as we do other art treasuresbut sell them to you at Americanized prices.

There are many of them here for you to see-a special collection gathered with great care. We could entertain you with a string of names, such as they are called, but it would add none to their beauty.

Art connoisseurs will appreciate the show, we feel assured that the little prices will sell

Toys, Games and Dolls.

are holding high carnival in the basement. It is the sight of the

portant showing-and what a lot of them there are. They keep company with the express

many hundreds.

It is for you to enjoy-no one will ask any questions why you worth 50 cents, are there, or what you want Just wander through and decide 50 cents. for yourself.

Prices are vital. They fall 75 cents. much below those of customary toy stores-partly because we import most of our own toys, and, again, because all prices must be least here-no matter what the cost.

BASEMENT,

Bissell Sweepers.

Happy thought for Christmas

a Bissell Carpet Sweeper. And how easily we associate the name Bissell with the sweeper-just as we would anything that we knew to be

Your wife will be estranged from backaches so long as she



perfect mechanism absorbs every particle of dirt-leaves the carpet glistening like new.

Better yet-how much they save the wear and tear-it doesn't take a Bissell long to pay for itself.

Prices begin at \$1.49.

Books for Presentation.

Padded leather editions seem Today the sleds get first im- to have fallen much into favor. The collection here is large-the finest ones in full levant at \$4.75 -and others down to 59c.

wagons, of which there are Ships and Sailors is a work of much grandeur. We will sell And the toy pianos-almost five copies at \$2.50-though like real-would be if they were elsewhere they're five dollars, larger. A stool for each piano, Henry Irving's Lectures on the Drama, edition de luxe; here at You'll feel at home in this toy \$2 instead of five dollars-each copy with authograph signature.

Standard fiction at 23c.;

Poetical works at 25c.; worth

Poetical works at 39c.; worth Library editions at 50c; worth

\$1.00. Cooper's Leather Stocking Tales, 90c.

Standard works in sets, 30 cents volume.

MAIN AISLE, WYOMING AVE.

wholesomeness of all food products imported by either country from the bility of a settlement. This being desother. Were the congress to authorize clined by the British commissioners, at an invitation to Germany, in connec-tion with the pending reciprocity negotiations for the constitution of a joint gotiations for the constitution of a joint commission of scientific experts and practical men of affairs to conduct a rearching investigation of food pro-duction and exportation in both counries and report to their respective legislatures for the adoption of such remedial measures as they might reccumend for either, the way might be

Efforts to obtain for American life insurance companies a full hearing as to their business operations in Prussia have, after several years of patient representation, happily succeeded, and one of the most important American companies has been granted a concession to continue business in that king-with Great Britain.

I am also glad to announce that the

New York. Subsequent to the exchange of our peace treaty with Spain, Germany ac-quired the Caroline Islands by pur-Assurances have been refrom the German government that the rights of American missionaries and traders there will be considerately ob-

The Alaskan Boundary. In my last annual message I referred to the pending negotiations wit & Great Britain in respect to the Dominion of Canada. By means of an executive agreement a joint high commission had been created for the purpose of ad-justing all unsattled questions between the United States and Canada, embracing twelve subjects, among which were the question of fur seals, the fisheries of the coast and contiguous inland waters, the Alaskan boundary, the transit of merchandise in bond, the alien labor laws, mining rights, reciocity in trade, revision of the agreent respecting naval vessels in great lakes, a more complete marking of parts of the boundary, provision for the conveyance of criminals, and for

wrecking and salvage.

Much progress had been made by the ommission toward the adjustment of many of these questions, when it be difference of views was entertained re specting the delimitation of the Alas-kan boundary. In the failure of an agreement as to the meaning of Ar-ticles 3 and 4 of the treaty of 1825, he-tween Russia and Great Britain, which defined the boundary between Alaska and Carada, the American commission-ers proposed that the subject of the adjournment was taken until the boundary should be adjusted by the two governments. The subject has been receiving the careful attention which its importance demands, with the result that a medus vivendi, for provisional demarcations in the region about the head of Lynn canal, has been agreed upon; and it is hoped that the negotiations now in progress between the two governments will end in an agree-ment for the establishment and delimitation of a permanent boundary.

Apart from these questions growing out of our relationship with our northern neighbor, the most friendly disc position and ready agreement have marked the discussion of numerous

This government has maintained an attitude of neutrality in the unfortun-German insurance companies have been readmitted by the superintendent of insurance to do business in the state of mained faithful to the precept of avoiding entangling alliances as to affairs not our direct concern. Had circumstances suggested that the parties to the quarrel would have welcomed any kindly expression of the hope of the American people that war might be averted, good offices would have been gladly tendered. The United States representative at Pretoria was early instructed to see that all neutral American interests be respected by the com-batants. This has been an easy task in view of the positive declaration that the property rights of our citizence should be observed. Upon the with-drawal of the British agent from Pretoria, the United States consul was authorized, upon the request of the British government and with the assent of the South African and Orange Free State governments, to exercise the customary good offices of a neutral for the care of the British interests. In the discharge of this function I am happy to say that abundant oppor-tunity has been afforded to show the impartiality of this government towards both the combatants.

Lynching of Italians. For the fourth time in the present decade question has arisen with the government of Italy in regard to the lynching of Italian subjects. The latest of these deplorable events occurred at Tailulah, Louisiana, whereby five un-fortunates of Italian origin were taken from jail and happed. The authorities of the state and a representative of of the state and a representative of the Italian embassy have separately investigated the occurrence with dis-crepant results and an independent investigation has been set on foot, through the agency of the department of state, and is still in progress. The

[Constnued on Page 10.]