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FREELAND, PA., DECEMBER 8, 1898.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Continued from First Page.

which comprised modern vessels of the highest type of continental perfection. Our army also required enlargement of men and munitions. The details of the hurried preparation for the dreaded contingency are told in the reports of the secretaries of war and of the navy and need not be repeated here. It is sufficient to say that the outbreak of war when it did come found our nation not unprepared to meet the conflict.

### Peaceful Solution Sought.

Still animated by the hope of a peaceful solution and obeying the dictates of duty, no effort was relaxed to bring about a speedy ending of the Cuban struggle. Negotiations to this object continued actively with the government of Spain. Grieved and disappointed at the barren outcome of my sincere endeavors to reach a practical solution, I felt it my duty to remit the whole question to the congress. In the message of April 11, 1898, I announced that with this last overture in the direction of immediate peace in Cuba and its disappointing reception by Spain the effort of the executive was brought to an end.

In view of all this the congress was asked to authorize and empower the president to take measures to secure a full and final termination of hostilities between Spain and the people of Cuba and to secure in the island the establishment of a stable government. The response of the congress, after nine days of earnest deliberation, during which the almost unanimous sentiment of your body was developed on every point save as to the expediency of coupling the proposed action with a formal recognition of the republic of Cuba as the true and lawful government of that island—a proposition which failed of adoption—the congress after conference on the 19th of April, by a vote of 42 to 35 in the senate and 311 to 6 in the house of representatives, passed the memorable joint resolution declaring:

First.—That the people of the island of Cuba are and of right ought to be free and independent.

Second.—That it is the duty of the United States to demand, and the government of the United States does hereby demand, that the government of Spain at once relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters.

Third.—That the president of the United States be and he hereby is directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States and to call into the actual service of the United States the militia of the several States to such extent as may be necessary to carry these resolutions into effect.

Fourth.—That the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty jurisdiction or control over said island, except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination, when that is accomplished, to leave the government and control of the island to its people.

Our country thus, after an interval of half a century of peace with all nations, found itself engaged in deadly conflict with a foreign enemy. Every nerve was strained to meet the emergency. The response to the initial call for 125,000 volunteers was instant and complete, and was also the result of the second call, of May 25, for 75,000 additional volunteers. The ranks of the regular army were increased to the limits provided by the act of April 26, 1898.

The enlisted force of the navy on the 15th day of August, when it reached its maximum, numbered 24,123 men and apprentices. One hundred and three vessels were added to the navy by purchase, one leased, and the four vessels of the International Navigation Company—the St. Paul, St. Louis, New York and Paris—were chartered. In addition to these the revenue cutters and light-house tenders were turned over to the navy department and became temporarily a part of the auxiliary navy.

The medium effective fighting force of the navy during the war, separated into classes, was as follows:

Four battleships of the first class, 1 battleship of the second class, 2 armored cruisers, 6 coast defense monitors, 1 armored ram, 12 protected cruisers, 3 unprotected cruisers, 18 gunboats, 1 dynamite cruiser, 11 torpedo boats; vessels of the old navy, including monitors, 14. Auxiliary: Eleven auxiliary cruisers, 28 converted yachts, 27 converted tugs, 15 converted colliers, 15 revenue cutters, 7 light-house tenders and 19 miscellaneous vessels.

There was placed in Cuban waters a completely outfitted cable ship, with war cables and cable gear, suitable both for the destruction of communications belonging to the enemy and the establishment of our own. Two ocean cables were destroyed under the enemy's batteries at Santiago.

The day previous to the landing of General Shafter's army corps at Calimera, within 20 miles of the landing place, cable communications were established and a cable station opened, giving direct communication with the government at Washington.

This service was invaluable to the executive in directing the operations of the army and navy. With a total force of over 1,300 the loss was by disease in camp and field, officers and men included, only five.

### How the Fund Was Spent.

The national defense fund of \$50,000,000 was expended in large part by the army and navy, and the objects for which it was used are fully shown in

the reports of the several secretaries. It was a most timely appropriation, enabling the government to strengthen its defenses and make preparations greatly needed in case of war.

This fund being inadequate to the requirements of equipment and for the conduct of the war, the patriotism of the congress provided the means in the war revenue act of June 15 by authorizing a 3 per cent popular loan not to exceed \$100,000,000 and by levying additional imposts and taxes. Of the authorized loan \$200,000,000 was offered and promptly taken, the subscriptions so far exceeding the call as to cover it many times over, while preference being given to the smaller bids no single allotment exceeded \$5,000. This was a most encouraging and significant result, showing the vast resources of the nation, and the determination of the people to uphold their country's honor.

The message then recites the salient features in the history of the war and continues:

The total casualties in killed and wounded in the army during the war with Spain were: Officers killed, 23; enlisted men killed, 257; total, 280; officers wounded, 113; enlisted men wounded, 1,464; total, 1,577. Of the navy: Killed, 17; wounded, 67; died as result of wounds, 1; invalided from service, 6; total, 91.

It will be observed, that while our navy was engaged in two great battles and in numerous perilous undertakings in blockade and bombardment and more than 50,000 of our troops were transported to distant lands and were engaged in assault and siege and battle and many skirmishes in unfamiliar territory, we lost in both arms of the service a total of 1,668 killed and wounded, and in the entire campaign by land and sea we did not lose a gun or a flag or a transport or a ship, and, with the exception of the crew of the Merrimac, not a soldier or sailor was taken prisoner.

On Aug. 7, 46 days from the date of the landing of General Shafter's army in Cuba and 21 days from the surrender of Santiago, the United States troops commenced embarkation for home, and our entire force was returned to the United States as early as Aug. 24. They were absent from the United States only two months.

### Tribute Paid.

The president then pays tribute to that portion of the army which was kept in camp in the United States and also to the work of the Red Cross society. He recognizes the hand of God in the war in these words:

In tracing these events we are constantly reminded of our obligations to the divine Master for his watchful care over us and his safe guidance, for which the nation makes reverent acknowledgment and offers humble prayer for the continuance of his favor.

The message continues by detailing the steps taken in the formation of the peace commission, the proclamation suspending hostilities and the mustering out of the volunteers, the formation of the evacuation commissions in Porto Rico and Cuba and the appointment of the peace commission. The president then says:

I do not discuss at this time the government's future of the new possessions which will be the result of the war with Spain. Such discussion will be appropriate after the treaty of peace shall be ratified. In the meantime and until the congress has legislated otherwise it will be my duty to continue the military government which has existed since our occupation and give to the people security in life and property and encouragement under a just and beneficent rule.

As soon as we are in possession of Cuba and have pacified the island it will be necessary to give aid and direction to the people to form a government for themselves. This should be undertaken at the earliest moment consistent with safety and assured success. It is important that our relations with this people shall be of the most friendly character and our commercial relations close and reciprocal. It should be our aim to assist in every proper way to build up the waste places of the island, encourage the industry of the people and assist them to form a government which shall be free and independent, thus realizing the best aspirations of the Cuban people.

### Must Be Just Government.

Spanish rule must be replaced by a just, benevolent and humane government created by the people of Cuba, capable of performing all international obligations and which shall encourage thrift, industry and prosperity and promote peace and good will among all of the inhabitants, whatever may have been their relations in the past. Neither revenge nor passion should have a place in the new government. Until there is an entire tranquillity in the island and a stable government, no continued military occupation will be continued.

With the one exception of the rupture with Spain the intercourse of the United States with the great family of nations has been marked with cordiality, and the close of the eventful year finds most of the issues that necessarily arise in the complex relations of sovereign states adjusted or presenting no serious obstacle to a just and honorable solution by amicable agreement.

The message, after touching on the Argentine-Chile boundary question and to subject of an international cable agreement, speaks of the Lattimer shooting on Sept. 10, 1897, and expresses the hope that Austria-Hungary's claim for indemnity for its subjects then slain will be satisfactorily adjusted. The success of American exhibits at the Brussels fair of 1897 is mentioned. The history of the formation of the United States of Central America is detailed. After stating the work of the Nicaragua canal commission, the president says:

As the scope of the recent inquiry embraced the whole subject with the aim of making plans and surveys for a canal by the most convenient route, it necessarily included a review of the result of previous surveys and plans and in particular those adopted by the Maritime Canal company under its existing concessions from Nicaragua and Costa Rica, so that to this extent those grants necessarily hold as essential a part in the deliberations and conclusions of the canal commission as they have held and must needs hold in the discussion of the matter by the congress. Under these circumstances and in view of overtures made to the governments of Nicaragua and Costa Rica by other parties for a new canal concession predicated on the assumed approaching lapse of the contracts of the Maritime Canal company with those states, I have not hesitated to express my conviction that considerations of expedi-

ency and international policy as between the several governments interested in the construction and control of an interoceanic canal by this route require the maintenance of the status quo until the canal commission shall have reported and the United States congress shall have had the opportunity to pass finally upon the whole matter during the present session without prejudice by reason of any change in the existing conditions.

### An Optional Concession.

Nevertheless it appears that the government of Nicaragua, as one of its last sovereign acts before merging its powers in those of the newly formed United States of Central America, has granted an optional concession to another association, to become effective on the expiration of the present grant. It does not appear what surveys have been made or what route is proposed under this contingent grant, so that an examination of the feasibility of its plans is necessarily not embraced in the report of the canal commission. All these circumstances suggest the urgency of some definite action by the congress at this session if the labors of the past are to be utilized and the linking of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans by a practical waterway is to be realized. That the construction of such a maritime highway is now more than ever indispensable to that intimate and ready intercommunication between eastern and western seaboard demanded by the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands and the prospective expansion of our influence and commerce in the Pacific and that our national policy now more imperatively than ever calls for its control by our government are propositions which doubt not the congress will duly appreciate and wisely act upon.

The United States has not been an indifferent spectator of the extraordinary events transpiring in the Chinese empire, whereby portions of its maritime provinces are passing under the control of various European nations. But the prospect of that vast commerce which the energy of our citizens and the necessity of our staple productions for Chinese uses has built up in those regions may not be prejudiced through any exclusive treatment by the new occupants has obligated the need of our country becoming an actor in the scene.

### An Equitable Claim.

Our position among nations, having a large Pacific coast and a constantly expanding trade with the farther orient, gives us the equitable claim to consideration and friendly treatment in this regard, and it will be my aim to subserve our large interests in that quarter by all means appropriate to the constant policy of our government.

The territories of Kiaochow, Wei-Hai-Wei and of Port Arthur and Taitowan, leased to Germany, Great Britain and Russia respectively for terms of years, will, it is announced, be open to international commerce during such alien occupation, and if no discriminating treatment of American citizens and their trade be found to exist or be hereafter developed the desire of this government would appear to be realized.

The measures taken to protect Americans in China are mentioned, and the president then details the later aspects of the Colombia-Italian difficulty. American representation at the Paris exposition next subject, and Commissioner Peck's work is detailed. The president, after speaking of the commercial arrangement with France and the pending one with Germany, says:

Our relations with Great Britain have continued on the most friendly footing. Assenting to our request, the protection of Americans and their interests in Spanish jurisdiction was assumed by the diplomatic and consular representatives of Great Britain, who fulfilled their delicate and arduous trust with tact and zeal, eliciting high commendation. I may be allowed to make fitting allusion to the instance of Mr. Ramsden, her majesty's consul at Santiago de Cuba, whose untimely death after distinguished service and untiring effort during the siege of that city was sincerely lamented.

It will give me especial satisfaction if I shall be authorized to communicate to you a favorable conclusion of the pending negotiations with Great Britain in respect to the Dominion of Canada. It is the earnest wish of this government to remove all sources of discord and irritation in our relations with the neighboring Dominion. The trade between the two countries is constantly increasing, and it is important to both countries that all reasonable facilities should be granted for its development.

### Annexation of Hawaii.

The annexation of Hawaii is now discussed. The president says, after detailing the taking over of the islands and the appointment of the Hawaiian commission:

The commissioners having fulfilled the mission confided to them, their report will be laid before you at an early day. It is believed that their recommendations will have the earnest consideration due to the magnitude of the responsibility resting upon you to give such shape to the relationship of those mid-Pacific lands to our nation as will benefit both in the highest degree, realizing the aspirations of the community that has cast its lot with us and elected to share our political heritage, while at the same time justifying the foresight of those who for three-quarters of a century have looked to the assimilation of Hawaii as a natural and inevitable consummation in harmony with our needs and in fulfillment of our cherished traditions.

Under the provisions of the joint resolution the existing customs relations of the Hawaiian Islands with the United States and with other countries remain unchanged until legislation shall otherwise provide. The consuls of Hawaii here and in foreign countries continue to fulfill their commercial agencies, while the United States consulate at Honolulu is maintained for all appropriate services pertaining to trade and the revenue. It would be desirable that all foreign consuls in the Hawaiian Islands should receive new exequaturs from this government.

The attention of congress is called to the fact that, our consular offices having ceased to exist in Hawaii and being about to cease in other countries coming under the sovereignty of the United States, the provisions for the relief and transportation of destitute American seamen in those countries under our consular regulations will in consequence terminate. It is proper, therefore, that new legislation should be enacted upon this subject in order to meet the changed conditions.

The president speaks of our relations

with Mexico and suggests the amendment of the extradition statute so as to give the president authority to accept where a treaty negatives the obligation to surrender. Other Mexican questions are discussed. The message then says:

### The Czar's Proposal.

The proposal of the czar for a general reduction of the vast military establishments that weigh so heavily upon many peoples in time of peace was communicated to this government, with an earnest invitation to be represented in the conference which it is contemplated to assemble with a view to discussing the matter of armaments on a desirable result. His majesty was at once informed of the cordial sympathy of this government with the principle involved in his exalted proposal and of the readiness of the United States to take part in the conference. The active forces of the United States, as measured by population, territory, area and taxable wealth is, and under any conceivable prospective conditions must continue to be, in time of peace so conspicuously less than that of the armed powers to whom the czar's appeal is especially addressed that the question can have for us no practical importance save as an impetus to a cautious step toward the betterment and well among them, but in this view it behooves us as a nation to lend countenance and aid to the beneficent project.

A newly accredited envoy of the United States to the Ottoman port carries instructions looking to the disposal of matters in controversy with Turkey for a number of years. He is especially charged to press for a just settlement of our claims for indemnity by reason of the destruction of the property of American missionaries resident in that country during the Armenian troubles of 1895, as well as for the recognition of other claims of equal justice.

He is also instructed to seek an adjustment of the dispute growing out of the refusal of Turkey to recognize the acquired citizenship of Ottoman born persons naturalized in the United States since 1867 without prior imperial consent, and in the same general relation he is directed to endeavor to bring about a solution of the question which has more or less acutely existed since 1869 concerning the jurisdictional rights of the United States in matters of criminal procedure and punishment under article 4 of the treaty of 1830. This latter difficulty grows out of a verbal difference, claimed by Turkey to be essential, between the original Turkish text and the promulgated translation.

After more than two years from the appointment of a consul of this country to Erzerum he has received his exequatur.

I transmitted to the senate on the 10th of February last information touching the prohibition against the importation of fresh fruits from this country, which had been recently decreed by Germany, on the ground of danger of disseminating the San Jose scale insect. This precautionary measure was justified by Germany on the score of the drastic steps taken in several states of the Union against the spread of the pest, the elaborate reports of the department of agriculture being put in evidence to show the danger to German fruit growing interests should the scale obtain a lodgment in that country.

Temporary relief was afforded in the case of large consignments of fruit then on the way by inspection and admission when found noninfected. Later the prohibition was extended to dried fruits of every kind, but was relaxed so as to admit only of apples, peaches and fruit waste. As was to be expected, the alarm reached to other countries, and Switzerland had adopted a similar inhibition. Efforts are in progress to induce the German and Swiss governments to relax the prohibition in favor of dried fruits shown to have been cured under circumstances rendering the existence of animal life impossible.

The government of Greece strongly urges the celerity of the duty here imposed upon the currents of that country, amounting to 100 per cent or more of their market value. This fruit is stated to be exclusively a Greek product, not coming into competition with any domestic product. The question of reciprocal commercial relations with Greece, including the restoration of currants to the free list, is under consideration.

The long standing claim of Bernard Campbell for damages for injuries sustained from a violent assault committed against him by military authorities in the island of Haiti has been settled by the settlement of \$25,000 to him, \$16,000 in American gold. Of this sum \$5,000 has already been paid. It is hoped that other pending claims of American citizens against that republic may be amicably adjusted.

The arbitral tribunal appointed under the treaty of Feb. 2, 1897, between Great Britain and Venezuela, to determine the boundary line between the latter and the colony of British Guiana is to convene at Paris during the present month. It is a source of much gratification to this government to see the friendly resort of arbitration applied to the settlement of this controversy not alone because of the earnestness we have had in bringing about the result, but because the two members named on behalf of Venezuela, Mr. Chief Justice Fuller and Mr. Justice Brewer, chosen from our highest court, appropriately testify the continuing interest we feel in the definitive adjustment of the question according to the strictest rules of justice. The British members, Lord Herschell and Sir Richard Collins, are jurists of no less exalted repute, while the fifth member and president of the tribunal, M. F. de Martens, has earned a worldwide reputation as an authority upon international law.

### Private Property in War.

The experiences of the last year bring forcibly home to us a sense of the burdens and the waste of war. We desire, in common with most civilized nations, to reduce to the lowest possible point the damage sustained in time of war by peaceful trade and commerce. It is true we may suffer in such cases less than other communities, but all nations are damaged more or less by the state of uneasiness and apprehension into which an outbreak of hostilities throws the entire commercial world. It should be our object, therefore, to minimize so far as practicable this inevitable loss and disturbance. This purpose can probably best be accomplished by an international agreement to regard all private property at sea as exempt from capture or destruction by the forces of belligerent powers. The United States government has for many years advocated this humane and beneficent prin-

ciple and is now in position to recommend it to other powers without the imputation of selfish motives. I therefore suggest for your consideration that the executive be authorized to correspond with the governments of the principal maritime powers with a view of incorporating into the permanent law of civilized nations the principle of the exemption of all private property at sea not contraband of war from capture or destruction by belligerent powers.

On finances the president says the provisions made for the treasury in the war have established more firmly the national credit at home and abroad as well as increasing confidence in the maintenance of the present standard and...

The provisions made for strengthening the resources of the treasury in connection with the war have given increased confidence in the purpose and power of the government to maintain the present standard and have established more firmly than ever the national credit at home and abroad. A marked evidence of this is found in the inflow of gold to the treasury. Its net gold holdings on Nov. 1, 1898, were \$239,852,162 as compared with \$152,573,147 on Nov. 1, 1897, to \$300,235,275 Nov. 1, 1898. The present ratio of net treasury gold to outstanding government liabilities, including United States notes, treasury notes of 1890, silver certificates, currency certificates, standard silver dollars and fractional silver coin Nov. 1, 1898, was 25.35 per cent as compared with 16.96 per cent Nov. 1, 1897.

I refer so much of my recommendation of December, 1897, as follows: That when any of the United States notes are presented for redemption in gold and are redeemed in gold such notes shall be kept and set apart and only paid out in exchange for gold. This is an obvious duty. If the holder of the United States note prefers the gold and gets it from the government he should not receive back from the government a United States note without paying gold in exchange for it. The reason for this is made all the more apparent when the government issues an interest bearing debt to provide gold for the redemption of United States notes—a noninterest bearing debt. Surely it should not pay them out again except on demand for gold. If they are put out in any other way, they may return again, to be followed by another bond issue to redeem—another interest bearing debt to redeem a noninterest bearing debt.

In my judgment the present condition of the treasury amply justifies the immediate enactment of the legislation recommended one year ago under which a portion of the gold holdings should be placed in trust fund, from which greenbacks should be redeemed upon presentation, but when once redeemed should not thereafter be paid out except for gold.

It is not to be inferred that other legislation relating to our currency is not required. On the contrary, there is an obvious demand for it. The importance of adequate provision which will insure to our future a money standard related as our money standard now is to that of our commercial rivals is generally recognized.

The secretary of the treasury reports that the receipts of the government from all sources during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1898, including \$45,751,223 received from sale of Pacific railroads, amounted to \$405,321,335 and its expenditures to \$443,368,582. There was collected from customs \$149,575,962 and from interest revenues \$170,300,531. Our dutiable imports amounted to \$224,655,479, a decrease of \$38,156,690 over the preceding year, and importations free of duty amounted to \$291,414,175, a decrease from the preceding year of \$90,524,068. Internal revenue receipts exceeded those of the preceding year by \$34,212,067.

The total tax collected on distilled spirits was \$92,546,999, on manufactured tobacco \$36,220,522 and on fermented liquors \$29,515,421. We exported merchandise during the year amounting to \$1,231,482,330, an increase of \$180,488,774 from the preceding year.

It is estimated upon the basis of present revenue laws that the receipts of the government for the year ending June 30, 1899, will be \$577,874,847 and its expenditures \$658,874,647, resulting in a deficiency of \$112,000,000.

On the 1st of December, 1898, there were held in the treasury gold coin amounting to \$138,441,517, gold bullion amounting to \$138,502,645, silver bullion amounting to \$93,359,250 and other forms of money amounting to \$451,993,981.

On the same date the amount of money of all kinds in circulation or not included in treasury holdings was \$1,886,879,504, an increase for the year of \$165,794,966. Estimating our population at 75,194,000 at the time mentioned, the per capita circulation was \$25.09. On the same date there was in the treasury gold bullion amounting to \$138,502,645.

The president says a prompt adoption of a maritime policy is now necessary, recommends the appointment of an expert commission on yellow fever, approves of the increase of the standing army to 100,000 men and declares that such is provided for he will muster out the entire volunteer army. He says:

Under the act of congress approved April 26, 1898, authorizing the president in his discretion, "under a declaration of war by congress or a declaration by congress that war exists," I directed the increase of the regular army to the maximum of 62,000 authorized in said act.

There are now in the regular army 57,862 officers and men. In said act it was provided "That at the end of any war in which the United States may become involved the army shall be reduced to a peace basis by the transfer in the same arm of the service or absorption by promotion or honorable discharge under such regulations as the secretary of war may establish of supernumerary commissioned officers and the honorable discharge or transfer of supernumerary enlisted men, and nothing contained in this act shall be construed as authorizing the permanent increase of the commissioned or enlisted force of the regular army beyond that now provided by the law in force prior to the passage of this act, except as to the increase of 25 majors provided for in section one hereof."

The importance of legislation for the permanent increase of the army is therefore manifest, and the recommendation of the secretary of war for that purpose has my unqualified approval. There can be no question that at this time, and probably for some time in the future, 100,000 men will be none too many to meet the necessities of the situation. At all events, whether that number shall be required permanently or not, the power should be given to the president to enlist that force if in his discretion it should be necessary.

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and the further direction should be given him to recruit for the army within the above limit from the inhabitants of the islands with the government of which we are charged.

It is my purpose to muster out the entire volunteer army as soon as the congress shall provide for the increase of the regular establishment. This will be only an act of justice and will be much appreciated by the brave men who left their homes and employments to help the country in its emergency.

**Railway Matters.**  
After narrating the proceedings against the Union Pacific and Kansas Pacific railroads, the president says: It is a gratifying fact that the result of these proceedings against the Union Pacific system and the Kansas Pacific line is that the government has received on account of its subsidy claim the sum of \$64,751,223.75, an increase of \$18,897,163.76 over the sum which the reorganization committee originally agreed to bid for the joint property, the government receiving its whole claim, principal and interest, on the Union Pacific and the principal of its debt on the Kansas Pacific railroad.

The president recommends the erection of a new building for the department of justice at Washington and a separate building for the supreme court. He details the work of the postal service in connection with the war. He approves the secretary of the navy's recommendations for more battleships and recommends the temporary revival of the ranks of admiral and vice admiral. The pension rolls are discussed, as is the work of the department of the interior for the past year and of the department of agriculture. He recommends an appropriation for the celebration in 1899 of the centennial of the city of Washington, saying:

I recommend to the congress the granting of an appropriation for this purpose and the appointment of a committee from its respective bodies. It might also be advisable to authorize the president to appoint a committee from the country at large, which, acting with the congressional and District of Columbia committees, can complete the plans for an appropriate national celebration.

The alien contract labor law is showing by experience to need some amendment. A measure providing better protection for seamen is proposed, the right application of the eight hour law for the benefit of labor and of the principle of arbitration is suggested for consideration, and I commend these subjects to the careful attention of the congress. **WILLIAM M'KINLEY.**

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