

mendations will be adopted and immediate action thereon taken.

Redistribution of Bureaus.
It is highly advisable that there should be intelligent action on the part of the nation on the question of preserving the health of the country. Through the practical extermination in San Francisco of disease bearing rodents our country has thus far escaped the bubonic plague. This is but one of the many achievements of American health officers, and it shows what can be accomplished with a better organization than at present exists.

Public Health.
The dangers to public health from food adulteration and from many other sources, such as the menace to the physical, mental and moral development of children from child labor, should be met and overcome. There are numerous diseases which are now known to be preventable which are nevertheless not prevented. The recent international congress on tuberculosis has made us painfully aware of the inadequacy of American public health legislation. This nation cannot afford to lag behind in the worldwide battle now being waged by all civilized people with the microscopic foes of mankind, nor ought we longer to ignore the reproach that this government takes more pains to protect the lives of hogs and of cattle than of human beings. The first legislative step to be taken is that for the concentration of the proper bureaus into one of the existing departments. I therefore urgently recommend the passage of a bill which shall authorize a redistribution of the bureaus which shall best accomplish this end.

Government Printing Office.
I recommend that legislation be enacted placing under the jurisdiction of the department of commerce and labor the government printing office. At present this office is under the combined control, supervision and administrative direction of the president and of the joint committee on printing of the two houses of the congress. The advantage of having the 4,000 employees in this office and the expenditure of the \$5,761,377.57 appropriated therefor supervised by an executive department is obvious instead of the present combined supervision.

Soldiers' Homes.
All soldiers' homes should be placed under the complete jurisdiction and control of the war department.

Independent Bureaus and Commissions.
Economy and sound business policy require that all existing independent bureaus and commissions should be placed under the jurisdiction of appropriate executive departments. It is unwise from every standpoint and results only in mischief to have any executive work done save by the purely executive bodies under the control of the president, and each such executive body should be under the immediate supervision of a cabinet minister.

Statehood.
I advocate the immediate admission of New Mexico and Arizona as states. This should be done at the present session of the congress. The people of the two territories have made it evident by their votes that they will not come in as one state. The only alternative is to admit them as two, and I trust that this will be done without delay.

Interstate Fisheries.
I call the attention of the congress to the importance of the problem of the fisheries in the interstate waters. On the great lakes we are now, under the very wise treaty of April 11 of this year, endeavoring to come to an international agreement for the preservation and satisfactory use of the fisheries of these waters which cannot otherwise be achieved. Lake Erie, for example, has the richest fresh water fisheries in the world, but it is now controlled by the statutes of two nations, four states and one province, and in this province by different ordinances in different counties. All these political divisions work at cross purposes, and in no case can they achieve protection to the fisheries on the one hand and justice to the localities and individuals on the other. The case is similar in Puget sound.

But the problem is quite as pressing in the interstate waters of the United States. The salmon fisheries of the Columbia river are now but a fraction of what they were twenty-five years ago and what they would be now if the United States government had taken complete charge of them by intervening between Oregon and Washington. During these twenty-five years the fishermen of each state have naturally tried to take all they could get, and the two legislatures have never been able to agree on joint action of any kind adequate in degree for the promotion of the fisheries. At the moment the fishing on the Oregon side is practically closed, while there is no limit on the Washington side of any kind, and no one can tell what the courts will decide as to the very statutes under which this action and nonaction result. Meanwhile very few salmon reach the spawning grounds, and probably four years hence the fisheries will amount to nothing, and this comes from a struggle between the associated or gill net fishermen on the one hand and the owners of the fishing wheels up the river. The fisheries of the Mississippi, the Ohio and the Potomac are also in a bad way. For this there is no remedy except for the United States to control and legislate for the interstate fisheries as part of the business of interstate commerce. In this case the machinery for scientific investigation and for control already exists in the United States bureau of fisheries. In this as in similar problems the obvious and simple rule should be followed of having those matters taken which in the United States, problems which, in the case of conflicting state legislatures are absolutely unsolvable, are easy enough for the congress to control.

Fisheries and Fur Seals.
The federal statute regulating interstate traffic in game should be extended to include fish. New federal fish hatcheries should be established. The administration of the Alaskan fur seal service should be vested in the bureau of fisheries.

Foreign Affairs.
This nation's foreign policy is based on the theory that right must be done between nations precisely as between individuals, and in our actions for the

last ten years we have in this matter proved our faith by our deeds. We have behaved and are behaving toward other nations as in private life an honorable man would behave toward his fellows.

Latin American Republics.
The commercial and material progress of the twenty Latin American republics is worthy of the careful attention of the congress. No other section of the world has shown a greater proportionate development of its foreign trade during the last ten years, and none other has more special claims on the interest of the United States. It offers today probably larger opportunities for the legitimate expansion of our commerce than any other group of countries. These countries will want our products in greatly increased quantities, and we shall correspondingly need theirs. The international bureau of the American republics is doing a useful work in making these nations and their resources better known to us and in acquainting them not only with us as a people and with our purposes toward them, but with what we have to exchange for their goods. It is an international institution supported by all the governments of the two Americas.

Panama Canal.
The work on the Panama canal is being done with a speed, efficiency and entire devotion to duty which make it a model for all work of the kind. No task of such magnitude has ever before been undertaken by any nation, and no task of the kind has ever been better performed. The men on the isthmus, from Colonel Goelders and his fellow commissioners through the entire list of employees who are faithfully doing their duty, have won their right to the ungrudging respect and gratitude of the American people.

Ocean Mail Lines.
I again recommend the extension of the ocean mail act of 1891 so that satisfactory American ocean mail lines to South America, Asia, the Philippines and Australasia may be established. The creation of such steamship lines should be the natural corollary of the voyage of the battle fleet. It should precede the opening of the Panama canal. Even under favorable conditions several years must elapse before such lines can be put into operation. Accordingly, I urge that the congress act promptly where foresight already shows that action sooner or later will be inevitable.

Hawaii.
I call particular attention to the territory of Hawaii. The importance of those islands is apparent, and the need of improving their condition and developing their resources is urgent. In recent years industrial conditions upon the islands have radically changed. The importation of cool labor has practically ceased, and there is now developing such a diversity in agricultural products as to make possible a change in the land conditions of the territory so that an opportunity may be given to the small landowner similar to that on the mainland. To aid these changes the national government must provide the necessary harbor improvements on each island so that the agricultural products can be carried to the markets of the world. The coastwise shipping laws should be amended to meet the special needs of the islands, and the alien contract labor law should be so modified in its application to Hawaii as to enable American and European labor to be brought thither.

We have begun to improve Pearl harbor for a naval base and to provide the necessary military fortifications for the protection of the islands, but I cannot too strongly emphasize the need of appropriations for these purposes of such an amount as will within the shortest possible time make those islands practically impregnable. It is useless to develop the industrial conditions of the islands and establish these bases of supply for our naval and merchant fleets unless we insure, as far as human ingenuity can, their safety from foreign seizure.

One thing to be remembered with all our fortifications is that it is almost useless to make them impregnable from the sea if they are left open to land attack. This is true even of our own coast, but it is doubly true of our insular possessions. In Hawaii, for instance, it is worse than useless to establish a naval station unless we establish it behind fortifications so strong that no landing force can take them save by regular and long continued siege operations.

The Philippines.
Real progress toward self government is being made in the Philippine Islands. The gathering of a Philippine legislative body and Philippine assembly marks a process absolutely new in Asia, not only as regards Asiatic colonies of European powers, but as regards Asiatic possessions of other Asiatic powers, and indeed, always excepting the striking and wonderful example afforded by the great empire of Japan, it opens an entirely new departure when compared with anything which has happened among Asiatic powers which are their own masters. Hitherto this Philippine legislature has acted with moderation and self restraint and has seemed in practical fashion to realize the eternal truth that there must always be government and that the only way in which any body of individuals can escape the necessity of being governed by outsiders is to show that they are able to restrain themselves, to keep down wrongdoing and disorder. The Filipino people, through their officials, are therefore making real steps in the direction of self government. I hope and believe that these steps mark the beginning of a course which will continue till the Philippines become fit to decide for themselves whether they desire to be an independent nation. But it is well for them, and well also for those Americans who during the past decade have done so much damage to the Philippines by agitation for an immediate independence for which they were totally unfit, to remember that self government depends and must depend upon the Filipinos themselves. All we can do is to give them the opportunity to develop the capacity for self government. If we had followed the advice of the foolish doctrinaires who wished us at any time during the last ten years to turn the Filipino people adrift we should have shirked the plainest possible duty and have inflicted a lasting wrong upon the Filipino people. We have acted in exactly the opposite spirit. We have

given the Philippines constitutional government, a government based upon justice, and we have shown that we have governed them for their good and not for our aggrandizement.

At the present time, as during the past ten years, the inexorable logic of facts shows that this government must be supplied by us and not by them. We must help the Filipinos to master the difficult art of self control, which is simply another name for self government. But we cannot give them self government save in the sense of governing them so that gradually they may, if they are able, learn to govern themselves. Under the present system of just laws and sympathetic administration we have every reason to believe that they are gradually acquiring the character which lies at the basis of self government and for which, if it be lacking, no system of laws, no paper constitution, will in any wise serve as a substitute. Our people in the Philippines have achieved what may legitimately be called a marvelous success in giving to them a government which marks on the part of those in authority both the necessary understanding of the people and the necessary purpose to serve them disinterestedly and in good faith. I trust that within a generation the time will arrive when the Philippines can decide for themselves whether it is well for them to become independent or to continue under the protection of a strong and disinterested power, able to guarantee to the islands order at home and protection from foreign invasion. But no one can prophesy the exact date when it will be wise to consider independence as a fixed and definite policy. It would be worse than folly to try to set down such a date in advance, for it must depend upon the way in which the Philippine people themselves develop the power of self mastery.

Porto Rico.
I again recommend that American citizenship be conferred upon the people of Porto Rico.

Cuba.
In Cuba our occupancy will cease in about two months' time. The Cubans have in orderly manner elected their own governmental authorities, and the island will be turned over to them. Our occupation on this occasion has lasted a little over two years, and Cuba has thriven and prospered under it. Our earnest hope and one desire is that the people of the island shall now govern themselves with justice, so that peace and order may be secure. We will gladly help them to this end, but I would solemnly warn them to remember the great truth that the only way a people can permanently avoid being governed from without is to show that they both can and will govern themselves from within.

Japanese Exposition.
The Japanese government has postponed until 1917 the date of the great international exposition, the action being taken so as to insure ample time in which to prepare to make the exposition all that it should be made. The American commissioners have visited Japan, and the postponement will merely give ampler opportunity for America to be represented at the exposition. Not since the first international exposition has there been one of greater importance than this will be, marking as it does the fiftieth anniversary of the ascension to the throne of the emperor of Japan. The extraordinary leap to a foremost place among the nations of the world made by Japan during this half century is something unparalleled in all previous history. This exposition will fitly commemorate and signalize the giant progress that has been achieved. It is the first exposition of its kind that has ever been held in Asia. The United States because of the ancient friendship between the two peoples, because each of us fronts on the Pacific and because of the growing commercial relations between this country and Asia, takes a peculiar interest in seeing the exposition made a success in every way.

I take this opportunity publicly to state my appreciation of the way in which in Japan, in Australia, in New Zealand and in all the states of South America the battle fleet has been received on its practice voyage around the world. The American government cannot too strongly express its appreciation of the abounding and generous hospitality shown our ships in every port they visited.

The Army.
As regards the army, I call attention to the fact that, while our junior officers and enlisted men stand very high, the present system of promotion by seniority results in bringing into the higher grades many men of mediocre capacity who have but a short time to serve. No man should regard it as his vested right to rise to the highest rank in the army any more than in any other profession. It is a curious and by no means creditable fact that there should be so often a failure on the part of the public and its representatives to understand the great need from the standpoint of the service and the nation of refusing to promote respectable elderly incompetents. The higher places should be given to the most deserving men without regard to seniority. At least seniority should be treated as only one consideration. In the stress of modern industrial competition no business firm could succeed if those responsible for its management were chosen simply on the ground that they were the oldest people in its employment. Yet this is the course advocated as regards the army and required by law for all grades except those of general officer. As a matter of fact, all of the best officers in the highest ranks of the army are those who have attained their present position wholly or in part by a process of selection.

The scope of retiring boards should be extended so that they could consider general unfitness to command for any cause in order to secure a far more rigid enforcement than at present in the elimination of officers for mental, physical or temperamental disabilities. But this plan is recommended only if the congress does not see fit to provide what in my judgment is far better—that is, for selection in promotion and for elimination for age. Officers who fail to attain a certain rank by certain age should be retired. For instance, if a man should not attain field rank by the time he is forty-five he should of course be placed on the retired list.

General officers should be selected as at present, and one-third of the other promotions should be made by selection, the selection to be made by the president or the secretary of war from a list of at least two candidates proposed for each vacancy by a board of officers from the arm of the service from which the promotion is to be made. A bill is now before the congress having for its object to secure the promotion of officers to various grades at reasonable ages through a process of selection, by boards of officers, of the least efficient for retirement with a percentage of their pay depending upon length of service. The bill, although not accomplishing all that should be done, is a long step in the right direction, and I earnestly recommend its passage or that of a more completely effective measure.

The cavalry arm should be reorganized upon modern lines. This is an arm in which it is peculiarly necessary that the field officers should not be old. The cavalry is much more difficult to form than infantry, and it should be kept up to the maximum both in efficiency and in strength, for it cannot be made in a hurry. At present both infantry and artillery are too few in number for our needs. Especial attention should be paid to development of the machine gun. A general service corps should be established. As things are now the average soldier has far too much labor of a nonmilitary character to perform.

National Guard.
Now that the organized militia, the national guard, has been incorporated with the army as a part of the national forces it behooves the government to do every reasonable thing in its power to perfect its efficiency. It should be assisted in its instruction and otherwise aided more liberally than heretofore. The continuous services of many well trained regular officers will be essential in this connection. Such officers must be specially trained at service schools best to qualify them as instructors of the national guard. But the detailing of officers for training at the service schools and for duty with the national guard entails detaching them from their regiments which are already greatly depleted by detachment of officers for assignment to duties prescribed by acts of the congress.

A bill is now pending before the congress creating a number of extra officers in the army, which, if passed, as it ought to be, will enable more officers to be trained as instructors of national guard and assigned to that duty. In case of war it will be of the utmost importance to have a large number of trained officers to use for turning raw levies into good troops.

There should be legislation to provide a complete plan for organizing the great body of volunteers behind the regular army and national guard when war has come. Congressional assistance should be given those who are endeavoring to promote rifle practice, so that our men, in the services or out of them, may know how to use the rifle. While teams representing the United States won the rifle and revolver championships of the world against all comers in England this year, it is unfortunately true that the great body of our citizens shoot less and less as time goes on.

To meet this we should encourage rifle practice among schoolboys and indeed among all classes, as well as in the military services, by every means in our power. Thus, and not otherwise, may we be able to assist in preserving the peace of the world. It to hold our own against the strong nations of the earth, our voice for peace will carry to the ends of the earth. Unprepared and helpless to defend ourselves, protect others or preserve peace. The first step in the direction of preparation to avert war if possible and to be fit for war if it should come—is to teach our men to shoot.

The Navy.

I approve the recommendations of the general board for the increase of the navy, calling especial attention to the need of additional destroyers and colliers, and, above all, of the four battleships. It is desirable to complete as soon as possible a squadron of eight battleships, the best existing type. The North Dakota, Delaware, Florida and Utah will form the first division of this squadron. The four vessels proposed will form the second division. It will be an improvement on the first, the ships being of the heavy single caliber, all big gun type. All the vessels should have the same tactical qualities—that is, speed and turning circle—and as near as possible these tactical qualities should be the same as in the four vessels before named now being built.

I most earnestly recommend that the general board be by law turned into a general staff. There is literally no excuse whatever for continuing the present bureau organization of the navy. The navy should be treated as a purely military organization, and everything should be subordinated to the one object of securing military efficiency. Such military efficiency can only be guaranteed in time of war if there is the most thorough previous preparation in time of peace—a preparation, I may add, which will in all probability prevent any need of war. The secretary must be supreme, and he should have as his official advisers a body of the officers who should themselves have the power to pass upon and co-ordinate all the work and all the proposals of the several bureaus. A system of promotion by merit, either by selection or by exclusion or by both processes, should be introduced. It is out of the question, if the present principle of promotion by mere seniority is kept, to expect to get the best results from the higher officers. Our men come too old and stay far too short a time in the high command positions.

Two hospital ships should be provided. The actual experience of the hospital ship with the fleet in the Pacific has shown the invaluable work which such a ship does and has also proved that it is well to have it kept under the command of a medical officer. As was to be expected, all of the anticipations of trouble from such a command have proved completely baseless. It is absurd to put a hospital ship under a field officer as it would be to put a hospital on shore under such a command. This ought to have been realized before, and there is no excuse for failure to realize it now.

Nothing better for the navy from

every standpoint has ever occurred than the cruise of the battle fleet around the world. The improvement of the ships in every way has been extraordinary, and they have gained far more experience in battle tactics than they would have gained if they had stayed in the Atlantic waters. The American people have cause for profound gratification both in view of the excellent condition of the fleet as shown by this cruise and in view of the improvement the cruise has worked in this already high condition. I do not believe that there is any other service in the world in which the average of character and efficiency in the enlisted men is as high as is now the case in our own. I believe that the same statement can be made as to our officers, taken as a whole, but there must be a reservation made in regard to those in the highest ranks, as to which I have already spoken, and in regard to those who have just entered the service, because we do not now get full benefit from our excellent naval school at Annapolis.

It is absurd not to graduate the midshipmen as ensigns. To keep them for two years in such an anomalous position as at present the law requires is detrimental to them and to the service. In the academy itself every first class man should be required in turn to serve as petty officer and officer. His ability to discharge his duties as such should be a prerequisite to his going into the line, and his success in commanding should largely determine his standing at graduation. The board of visitors should be appointed in January, and each member should be required to give at least six days' service, only from one to three days to be performed during June week, which is the least desirable time for the board to be at Annapolis so far as benefiting the navy by their observations is concerned.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.
The White House, Tuesday, Dec. 8, 1908.

A GRIM CEREMONY.

An Emperor's Death Hastened by Rehearsing His Own Funeral.

Emperor Charles V. of Spain brought about his death by rehearsing his own funeral. For the last two years of his life, after resigning the scepter of Spain and the Netherlands to his son Philip in 1556, Charles retired to the monastery of Yuste, in Estremadura, and there lived a cloister life in close intercourse with the monks, devoting much time to religious exercises. During this period, prompted, it may be, by the example of Cardinal de la Marek who for several years before his death, in 1528, had annually rehearsed his own obsequies, the emperor, in the summer of 1558, formed the resolution to celebrate his own funeral before he died.

Accordingly, on Aug. 30 of that year, the grim farce was carried out with the most elaborate ceremonial. The imperial domestics marched with black tapes in their hands, and the emperor, clad in sable weeds, himself followed, wearing his shroud. While the solemn mass for the dead was sung before the high altar in the cathedral Charles gave up his taper to the priest, typifying thereby his resignation of life, and was solemnly laid his coffin. The ceremony closed with sprinkling holy water on his body; then, all the attendants retiring, the doors were shut, and Charles rose from his narrow bed and withdrew to his private apartment.

The damping of the graveclothes induced a chill, which, aided no doubt by the mental depression caused by the gruesome ceremony, induced a fever which ended in his death three weeks later, on the 21st of September, 1558.

EDWIN FORREST.

The Great Tragedian's Acting Was Saturated With Realism.

Edwin Forrest, says William Winter in "Other Days," was an uncommonly massive and puissant animal, and all of his impersonations were more physical than intellectual, while no one of them possessed any spiritual element whatever.

From the first and until the last his acting was saturated with "realism," and that was one reason of his extraordinary popularity. He could at all times be seen, heard and understood. He struck with a sledge hammer. Not even nerves of gutta serena could remain unshaken by his blow. In the manifestation of terror he lolled out his tongue, contorted his visage, made his frame quiver and used the trick sword with the rattling hilt. In scenes of fury he panted, snorted and snarled like a wild beast. In death scenes his gasps and gurgles were protracted and painfully literal. The bellow that he emitted when, as Richelieu, he threatened to launch the ecclesiastical curse almost made the theater walls tremble. The snarling yell of ferocity that burst from him when, as Jack Cade, he recognized and sprang upon Lord Say in the forest fairly frightened his hearers. His utterance of Lear's delirious prayer to nature was like a thunderstorm. Often he produced an amazingly consolatory effect, affording ample gratification to the overstrained feeling of his audience, desirous—as in stormy passages of "King Lear" and "Othello," the forum scene of "Virginius," the statue scene of "Damon and Pythias"—that something tremendous and terrible should be said and done. There were times when it was a comfort to see somebody who could be himself go. Forrest could. His style accordingly had its positive, ample, undeniable merits, but neither he nor his apostles were ever satisfied with acknowledgment of those merits at their actual worth.

Missed the Accessories.
"I hear you are receiving attentions from an actor."
"Yes, and I think he would propose if I could rig up a spot light in the parlor and sort of arrange the piano for a little slow music."—Kansas City Journal.

Compensation.
"Speakin' of de law of compensation," said Uncle Eben, "an automobile goes faster than a mule, but at de same time it hits harder an' balts longer."—Washington Star.

The Main Puzzle.
Manager—Have you a problem in your play? Author—One of the greatest. Manager—What is it? Author—How to get it produced.—Baltimore American.

A CASE OF CONSCIENCE.

The Powerful Motive That Moved the Commercial Traveler.

"No, I'm not whistling and singing because business is good," replied the hardware drummer. "What ails me is because I have a clear conscience for the first time in three years."

"Have you confessed to murder?" was asked.
"Gentlemen, don't try to be funny. This is a sacred thing. I was in Boston three years ago, and I picked up a package on the street. On opening it I found seventy-five \$1,000 bills. The name of the loser was there, but I took that money and got out of town by the first train. My conscience told me that I was as bad as a thief, but I tried to stifle it."

"A drummer with a conscience?" sneered three of the listeners in chorus.
"I went to Chicago with the money," continued the drummer, "and invested it in real estate. I knew it was wrong, but I did it. Six months ago I found myself worth \$200,000. Conscience would not down. It got so bad that I couldn't look even a confidence man in the face. At length I started for Boston and hunted up the loser of the wealth. I found him in his office and told my story. When it was finished I laid my all before him and asked his forgiveness."

"And what did he do?"
"I will tell you what he did, and I shall never forget it. He looked at me and saw how I was suffering, and he took me by the hand and said in a fatherly way:

"My friend, suffer no more. I was going to a poker game when I lost that money, and it would have gone anyhow."

"Conscience again, gentlemen—conscience. It won't let me retire and leave you fellows to do all the lying!"—Cincinnati Enquirer.

THE CABIN BOY.

He Has Become Practically a Thing of the Past.

An old sea captain who brought his ship into port recently after a long voyage from the east was talking about the changed conditions in the merchant marine since he entered it fifty years ago.

"I was thinking particularly," he said, "of how the cabin boy has completely disappeared, or at least how extremely rare he is now. I went to sea when I was twelve years old and got my full share of the many duties and few pleasures that belonged to the job. I took. I waited on the officers, or the passengers if we had any, helped the steward in the pantry and even had to assist 'cookie' despite the chronic kicking I put up over that imposition. Besides all those things, of course, the crew made me run errands for them, and everybody in general seemed to regard 'the boy' as the scapegoat for anything that went wrong. All new cabin boys were unmercifully laughed at if they were either homesick or seasick, and there were various practical jokes which had to be tried on them by the seamen. I remember well how I was told the first day I came aboard never to throw anything to windward except hot water and ashes and how I was green enough to follow these orders implicitly. The sight of my red and streaming eyes set the crew into roars of laughter."

"Those times are gone. There's no place at sea for any one but an able-bodied man now. Even the 'mess boys,' so called on the liners and in the navy, are all men. The modern changes in the build of vessels have left no work fit for a boy, and I don't believe you could find one now unless on some very small craft."—Philadelphia Ledger.

It Was a Dream.

When a certain divine was a young man and chaplain at the University of Pennsylvania, like other ministers who filled that position, he was much troubled over the apparent lack of attention from the students during the morning exercises in the chapel. The exercises hardly ever continued for more than fifteen minutes. Some of the students were in the habit of taking their books into the chapel and studying there during the services to make up for their tardiness of the night before in not preparing their lessons. The young chaplain was desirous of breaking up the habit, so one morning, preceding his customary five minutes' address, he spoke as follows:

"Young gentlemen, last night I dreamed I was here in the chapel addressing you. And as I spoke I saw every eye fixed upon me, every man attentive, while in all the chapel there was not a book opened, and then I knew it was a dream."

Thought Only of the Dynamite.

Some grim stories are told of Lord Kitchener, says the United States Gazette, and we have read one which, although we cannot vouch for the truth of it, has a decided Kitchener flavor about it. A young subaltern who was in charge of some works that were in course of construction in the Punjab had the misfortune to lose some native workmen through an accident with dynamite. Fearful of a reprimand from headquarters, he telegraphed to the commander in chief, "Regret to report killing of twelve laborers by dynamite accident." Back is said to have come the laconic message, "Do you want any more dynamite?"

Couldn't Miss the Chance.

One scarcely looks for humor in an undertaker, but that this, like most rules, has its exceptions was proved recently in Scotland. A tract distributor had addressed this text to a tree on the highway, "It is appointed to man once to die." This was too good an opportunity to be missed by the local purveyor of coffins, who promptly added the following announcement: "Funerals economically furnished by Black."

Some Satisfaction In That.

Mrs. Hewlins—You say that if a burglar wants to get into the house he'll get in in spite of everything you can do to keep him out. Then what is the use of your taking so much pains to fasten all the doors and windows? Mr. Hewlins—I want to give him the trouble I possibly can, blame him!—Chicago Tribune

TIME IN TURKEY.

The Hours Are Always Changing and Holidays Are Numerous.

In addition to laziness in Turkey there is inaccuracy. The Turkish of ficial is naturally inaccurate, and habit and conceit make him more so. This perhaps is due to the way in which Turkey measures time. Twelve o'clock in the day corresponds with sunset—that is to say, whatever hour the sun sets, it must always be 12. Consequently the hours change always, getting later the first half of the year and earlier in the last, which compels everybody to put his watch to daily torture. So no one in Turkey can flatter himself that he has the exact time. The most strict of Englishmen soon loses his national punctuality, so when two Turks make an appointment it is within the limit of half an hour or an hour, and even then they don't generally arrive till after the time agreed on, each one calculating on the utmost possible delay on the part of the other.

Consequently the state employees are not bound down by very severe discipline. No one expects them to arrive at their office at any particular time, especially as the majority of them go hardly at all. As for the most industrious, they appear for two or three hours in the afternoon only, and rather late. In the morning state offices are usually closed. Besides this workdays are rather scarce for the race of officials. Friday is the Sabbath of the Mohammedans. Saturday is the day after a feast day, and one does not do much then. Sunday the Greeks and Armenians remain, like good Christians, at home, and the Mohammedans generally imitate so good an example. Monday is again the morrow of a feast day. Wednesday there is a meeting of the council of ministers, and few employees go then to the ministry. With religious festivals added in, it is easy to understand that out of the 365 days of the year there are not many left to consecrate to the interests of the Ottoman empire.—Nicholas C. Adossides in American Magazine.

DON'T FIGHT THE WEATHER.

Try the Plan of Being on Friendly Terms With It.

What a great misfortune this is, the habit of considering the weather—of thinking that we must consider the weather! It is largely due, it is not, to clothes? No mention is made of rain in the garden of Eden, but we must not therefore contend that rain was disagreeable and omitted. We must recollect that Adam and Eve did not need to consider rain. Furthermore, in blessed ignorance they did not know that it was anything to be considered. To mind the rain no more than the May sunshine, but to plunge into it and let the drops pelt as they will, to accept snov without a thought of discomfort, but, rather, to enjoy the thronging presence of it; to pursue one's daily stint regardless of whether the sky be dun or blue—this is a state which we, especially of the cities, long, long have lost.

We regain it, some of us, in the wilderness camp, where we hunt or fish if the day be dark or if the day be bright, and where we find that the dash of the soft rain on one's face is not death, after all; that wetness and dryness are merely relative terms.

All the centuries of fussing and fuming with the weather have not affected the weather one particle. It still rains and snows and sleets and blows, just as dictated by circumstances. Therefore, what's the use? Are your puny diatribes or mine of any greater potency than those of others gone before? Evidently not. Accordingly try the plan of being friendly with the weather, of agreeing with it instead of fighting it, and, 'pon my word, presently it will be agreeing with you.—E. L. Sahlin in Lippincott's.

Imperfect Immunity.

An instance of diplomatic immunity nipped in the bud is cited in the Washington correspondence of the Chicago Tribune. A Washington policeman was swinging his club in Dupont circle when he noticed a nine-year-old breaking branches from a small bush.

"Stop that," he said to the youngster, touching him on the shoulder. "I may have to arrest you for that."

The child looked at him unafraid. "You can't do that," he observed gravely. "I am entitled to diplomatic immunity."

The officer's mouth opened in amazement, then he said: "Young man, I am an officer of the law. It is unlawful to break shrubbery. Anybody doing so must be arrested."

"But you don't know who I am," came back in a childish treble. "I am the son of an envoy extraordinary and a minister plenipotentiary. Diplomats and their families cannot be punished for breaking the laws. If you don't believe it, you may go and ask my papa."

"I'll tell you what I will do, young man," the officer said grimly. "I will take you to your father and see if you have any immunity from his punishment."

The youngster waited, and it was some satisfaction to the officer to know that he waited still longer after the tale had been told at the legation.

Keeping It Secret.

Village Postmistress—And what are those dashes?—Hodge—Oh, he'll understand them right enough. Postmistress—Yes, but we can't send them by telegraph. Hodge—Well, they're the price of the pigs. He'll understand. Postmistress—Yes, but you must put it in words or figures, else we can't send it. Hodge—Must I? Well, I'll whisper it to 'e, then.—Punch.

Honor.

"What they call 'honor' is a mighty curious thing," observed Uncle Jerry Peabody. "I know a man who would cheerfully starve himself to pay a gambler's debt, and he still owns the preacher that married him twenty-seven years ago."—Chicago Tribune

More Darkness.

"I'm all in the dark about how these bills are to be paid," said Mr. Hardup to his wife.

"Well, Henry," said she as she pulled out a colored one and laid it on the pile, "you will be if you don't pay that one, for it's the gas bill."

Not ignorant of misfortune, I terru from my own woes to aid the wretched.—Virgil.