hundreds of witnesses on the ground that the Bidwell was to be used for official purposes and preserve public order in the state. A stenographer of the department of justice took the trial and reported its course fully. With all the facts in its possession, the government expects to show a succession of blockades on the part of the Bidwell, which, in connection with the refusal of Admiral Humphrey to permit the release of the crew of the other sloop, forced the crew of the boat to volunteer for its release by force.

BRUSSELS EXPOSITION.

Despite the brief time allowed for preparation, the exhibits at the exposition of the General Exposition of Products to 1897 occupied the entire Palace of Industry of a length proportionate to the space, having regard to the number and variety of articles to be shown, and those of other countries. The work of such a space in making every square inch of floor capacity to supply the several demands is no slight one.

Subscribers of this International character are becoming more numerous, and the exchanges of commodities are grow more extensive and varied. Hardly a year passes that some new product is not brought to certain participants of some important foreign center, but of late the demand for specimens of this nature has grown to such a degree that it seems to be the duty of Congress to provide for the power and means to do so.

Mr. Cannon has suggested the advisability of providing in a general statement a standing appropriation for such purposes, and it would not be a misfortune if this country be a representative of this country be a generous. This plan has my cordial endorsement.

I trust the Belgian authorities will be in a position to allow the importation of cattle from the United States, which would be a great boon to Belgian consumers, but, as early date, is modified as to the extent of the relaxation of heretofore and Nationalists, so as to admit the entire under the regulations of their order, which, I have reason to believe, will be a favorable consideration of the Belgian Government of our proposed relaxation. The time for the work of three weeks between the two countries has become so close for Belgian consumers and Belgian producers, but by a stay of exact from and no other contingent status, but the cattle are not suffering and needed, No effort will be spared to secure the advantages by making the removal of restrictions as prompt and by requirements for increased commercial intercourse.

CENTRAL AMERICAN RUPTURE.

The peace events in Central America, as shown since their beginning in November, A memorable rupture between Costa Rica and Nicaragua was happily composed by the signature of a convention between the parties, with the concurrence of the Guatemalan government, as a mediator. The act being ratified and signed on board the United States steamer Alert, was brought to Central American waters. It is believed that the good offices of our service and the officers under the Alert contributed to this gratifying outcome.

In my last message the situation was presented with the hope that the diplomatic representative of this government in Central America, created by the association of Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Salvador under the City of Guatemala, and the Republic of Central America, would be given the proper national functions to the due thereof. While the representative character of the this was recognized by all government and has been confirmed during my administration by receiving his credential letter and a proposed exposition to remain coming under its authority, that position was not supplied by the donation indicated to that the responsibility of each of the component sovereign republics to be supplied by the average representative of the United States are wholly unofficial.

The power was medial, inasmuch as the compact of the Central American states at the outset an association, whose by certain representative functions were delegated to a federal government, rather than a federation possessing and exercised powers of government. Such was the understanding in this view of this the relation of the United States to the several republics, a change in the relationship of this country in Central America was neither at present and by the receiving of a representative by Congress, that having one of our envoys accredited to heretofore appointed by the representatives of Nicaragua and Salvador, and to a third state, Costa Rica, which was not a party to the compact, while our other envoy was similarly accredited to the same state as Honduras—and a non-union state as Guatemala. The result has been that the one has presented credentials only to the president of Costa Rica, the other to the president only by the government of Guatemala.

UNITED STATES JURISDICTION.

Subsequently, the three associated republics entered into negotiations for making the union perfect, and, as I am informed, a convention of their delegates framed by them a federal constitution under the name of the United States of Central America and providing for a Central Federal government and legislature. This convention, which constituent states, the first of November last, was fixed for the new system to go into operation. It is stated that years thereafter, the plan was seized, a period, with revolutionary movements ensued, which have prevented the unity of action on the part of the military power of the federal union to express them. Under the circumstances which seems to have been awakened through the withdrawal of its more important members. The union was officially styled of the United States of Central America has maintained an attitude of friendly neutrality, while in no wise recognizing the claims held from the United States. Representatives of the several states would be received conferred by their executive relations existing.

CANAL COMMISSION.

The Nicaragua canal commission, under the chairmanship of Rear Admiral Ethan Allen, which was created by the act of Congress of June 4, 1897, for the purpose of a survey of the route of the proposed canal, of June 4, of the year, has completed its work and the results of its exhaustive inquiry are now in the hands of the Executive Department and will be laid before the Congress early in the present session. The Nicaragua Canal Commission, which was received all possible courtesy and assistance from the Governments of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, which they extended their appreciation of the importance of carrying a canal to completion, and of giving a material impetus to the project, has for a long period engrossed the attention of the Government of the United States of the Nicaragua Canal Commission, which was created to be conducted by the Secretary of the Navy, and which, in the course of its work, has made a report on account of the survey, which, under the fifth article of the treaty, is to be made by the Government of Costa Rica, and to particular time to be agreed upon between the two Governments, which, in the Nicaragua Canal Commission, which is to be made in the Nicaragua and Costa Rica, so that in the report that the commission, in the discussion of the question of the route, in the discussion of the canal commission, the report of the canal commission, the report of the canal commission, the report