

# THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

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## DUTIES ON WORKS OF ART.

Much anxiety has lately been displayed by various European governments, and especially by the government of Italy, for the abolition of our import duties upon works of art. It is well known that the present discrimination in favor of the production of American artists abroad is not likely to result, as they themselves seem very desirous to be placed in the practical exclusion of our painters and sculptors from the rich fields for observation study and work which they have hitherto enjoyed.

MEXICAN MATTERS.

During the past year the increasing goodwill between our government and that of Mexico has been variously manifested. The treaty of commercial reciprocity between the two countries, signed at Mexico on July 1, 1884, has been ratified and awaits the necessary legislation of Congress to become effective. It is of the greatest importance that this question be solved before the conflicting interests of the two countries shall again distract the country, and I am persuaded that by the people at large any delay in its ratification is far proposed would be preferred to continued inaction.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

With the Republic of Nicaragua a treaty has been concluded whereby the United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted.

SPAIN AND SIAM.

The course of our government in relation to the Spanish and Siam has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted.

COMMERCIAL TREATY.

The growing need of closer relations of intercourse and traffic between the Spanish and Siam has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted.

THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Certain questions between the United States and the Ottoman Empire still remain unresolved. Complaints in regard to the rights of our citizens in the Ottoman Empire have been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted.

THE NATIONAL FINANCES.

The condition of our national finances has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted.

## ADVANTAGES ENJOYED BY THOSE OF RICHER COUNTRIES.

During the past year the attention of Congress was drawn to some of the advantages enjoyed by those of richer countries. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted.

IMPORTS.

More than 65 per cent. of the entire value of imported merchandise consisted of the following articles: Sugar, \$4,000,000; cotton, \$3,000,000; woolen manufactures, \$2,000,000; silk, \$1,000,000; iron and steel, \$1,000,000; chemicals, \$1,000,000; hardware, \$1,000,000; and other manufactures, \$1,000,000.

COINAGE OF SILVER.

I concur with the Secretary of the Treasury in recommending the immediate suspension of the coinage of silver dollars and the issue of silver certificates. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted.

RECIPROCAL COPYRIGHT.

The question of securing to authors, composers, and artists, copyright rights in this country in return for reciprocal rights abroad, has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted.

NEUTRALITY.

I recommend that the scope of the neutrality laws of the United States be enlarged to include the prohibition of the fitting out of armed expeditions, and the shipment of arms and munitions of war to belligerent countries. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted.

TRADE DOLLARS.

While trade dollars have ceased for the present, at least, to be an element of active disturbance in our currency system, some provision should be made for their issue in the future. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted.

NATURALIZATION LAWS.

Our existing naturalization laws also need revision. Those sections relating to persons residing within the limits of the United States, and who have been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted.

DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SERVICE.

The legislation of the last session effected in the diplomatic and consular service has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted. The United States has been promptly adjusted.

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