



President's Message.

RESIDENT McKinley's third annual message was not delivered to Congress until the second day of the session. The message is of unusual length, comprising nearly 25,000 words, and is regarded as one of the most important ever delivered from the White House. The leading features of the message relate to the new dependencies and to the financial question. Sovereignty is to be established throughout all the Philippine Islands and to be permanently maintained. The islands are to be ruled as if they were a part of the United States as far as possible. Attention is invited to the report of the Philippine commission as to why it is impossible for the United States to part with the islands and why direct commercial advantages in 1898 would be lost if the islands were to be placed under military control. It is recommended that some substantial progress be made toward the establishment of an independent form of government for the islands. The establishment of a civil government and the election by the people of a council or legislature, property and educational qualifications to be prescribed for voters. Immediate legislation is suggested for Hawaii.

On the financial question the President recommends that the gold standard be provided for by law, and the interest-bearing obligations of the United States be specifically made payable in gold. The regulation of trade and gold is recommended to prevent the sliding of competition, but without in any way hampering the development of American manufactures and commerce, is urged.

The President, in the opening paragraph, refers to the recent death of Vice-President Hobart and then proceeds to substance as follows:

The Fifty-third Congress convened in its first regular session with the country in a condition of peace and tranquility. It is good to see among the people at home, and in relations of peace and friendship with every government of the world, a sense of confidence and a great increase in commerce and industry. The combined imports and exports for the year are the largest ever shown by the United States. Our foreign trade for 1898 alone exceeded more than a billion dollars. Imports and exports were \$2,395,247,500, or \$1,000,000,000 more than in 1897, while the exports per capita are 78 per cent more than in 1870, showing the general progress of our people to satisfy the wants of our increasing population, as well as to contribute to the welfare of the rest of the world. Our agricultural products were \$284,716,142. Of manufactured products we exported \$1,842,531,248. The total value of our exports for the year ended June 30, 1898, aggregated \$1,158,314,141, an improvement of the Central Trade and Finance Commission report. The total value of our imports for the year ended June 30, 1898, aggregated \$2,242,437,359. For the year ended June 30, 1897, the total value of our imports aggregated \$2,242,437,359. The total value of our exports for the year ended June 30, 1898, aggregated \$1,158,314,141, an improvement of the Central Trade and Finance Commission report.

The present gratifying strength of the treasury is shown by the fact that December 31, 1898, the treasury had \$275,000,000, of which \$284,740,902.30 was in gold and silver. The conditions of commerce which prevail throughout the world are such that we are enabled to more generally and customarily receive more money than we send out in that country. The strong competition of the favorable market is such that we are enabled to receive more money than we send out in that country. The strong competition of the favorable market is such that we are enabled to receive more money than we send out in that country.

markets in China for the raw products and manufactures of the United States should receive at your hands the consideration which is their due. The freedom of commerce is a principle which should be maintained, but the Congress failed to take action. I now renew this recommendation.

Paris Exposition of 1900.

Preparations for the representation of the United States at the world's exposition to be held in Paris next year continue on an elaborate and comprehensive scale. The French Government has provided by Congress and to the friendly interest of the United States, a public building which the United States will occupy by position of honor in the exhibition grounds. The American exhibit at Paris will be an open volume, spreading abroad a clear knowledge of the worth of our production and the justice of our claims to the world's attention.

Cardinal Relations with Germany.

Our relations with Germany continue to be of a friendly and amicable character. A direct association has been made between the two countries by the establishment of a cable from Berlin, Grand Rapids, to the North Pole, by way of the Arctic, and by the establishment of a cable from Berlin, Grand Rapids, to the North Pole, by way of the Arctic, and by the establishment of a cable from Berlin, Grand Rapids, to the North Pole, by way of the Arctic.

Home Rule for Cuba.

The withdrawal of the authority of Spain from the island of Cuba was effected by the Treaty of Madrid, which was signed on the 10th of December, 1898. The government of peace found the relinquished territory held by us in trust for the inhabitants, and the Congress failed to take action. I now renew this recommendation.

The domestic postal service continues to grow with extraordinary rapidity. The total amount of mail matter for the year ended June 30, 1898, aggregated \$1,000,000,000, or \$1,000,000,000 more than in 1897. The total value of our exports for the year ended June 30, 1898, aggregated \$1,158,314,141, an improvement of the Central Trade and Finance Commission report.

Naval Prestige Maintained.

The navy has maintained the spirit and the prestige of the United States Navy. The total value of our exports for the year ended June 30, 1898, aggregated \$1,158,314,141, an improvement of the Central Trade and Finance Commission report.

Rebellion Must Be Put Down.

This was the unhappy condition of affairs which confronted our commissioners on the island of Cuba. The rebellion must be put down. The total value of our exports for the year ended June 30, 1898, aggregated \$1,158,314,141, an improvement of the Central Trade and Finance Commission report.

Peace Congress at The Hague.

In response to the invitation of his majesty King of the Netherlands, twenty-six countries were assembled at The Hague May 18, as members of a conference for the purpose of settling the international law of the sea. The total value of our exports for the year ended June 30, 1898, aggregated \$1,158,314,141, an improvement of the Central Trade and Finance Commission report.

Philippine Island Problem.

The Department of Agriculture is constantly formulating the needs of producers in all the States and Territories. The total value of our exports for the year ended June 30, 1898, aggregated \$1,158,314,141, an improvement of the Central Trade and Finance Commission report.

Peace Congress at The Hague.

In response to the invitation of his majesty King of the Netherlands, twenty-six countries were assembled at The Hague May 18, as members of a conference for the purpose of settling the international law of the sea. The total value of our exports for the year ended June 30, 1898, aggregated \$1,158,314,141, an improvement of the Central Trade and Finance Commission report.

Peace Congress at The Hague.

In response to the invitation of his majesty King of the Netherlands, twenty-six countries were assembled at The Hague May 18, as members of a conference for the purpose of settling the international law of the sea. The total value of our exports for the year ended June 30, 1898, aggregated \$1,158,314,141, an improvement of the Central Trade and Finance Commission report.

Peace Congress at The Hague.

In response to the invitation of his majesty King of the Netherlands, twenty-six countries were assembled at The Hague May 18, as members of a conference for the purpose of settling the international law of the sea. The total value of our exports for the year ended June 30, 1898, aggregated \$1,158,314,141, an improvement of the Central Trade and Finance Commission report.

