

## Incompetent Men

Even with so simple a matter as shoe blacking not one bootblack in a hundred knows how to shine shoes properly. In half an hour the ordinary shine looks like dull stove polish.

There's always good wages for competent men—but they are hard to find. We want a man in this town—when we find him we will make it profitable for him to push our selling system for THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

THE CURTIS PUBLISHING COMPANY  
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## SUMMARY OF PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Congress should confer upon some administrative body the power to regulate railroad rates and other matters of complaint that may arise between the great transportation corporations and their patrons. Public ownership of the railroads is undesirable, and regulation should not show a spirit of hostility.

Railroad employees should have shorter hours, and the policy of greater safety should be extended.

Present powers of the courts to interfere in labor troubles should not be abridged, but constant care should be exercised in the employment, investigation of child labor and the labor of women should be made, with a view to improvement in conditions.

Employer and employee should be brought closer together on a basis of better mutual understanding.

In the light of recent disclosures, congress should consider the desirability of federal supervision for insurance companies; state supervision is inadequate to maintain control of all evils.

Revenue in time of peace should provide for the government's expenditures, and when they fail to do this, should be readjusted; a general agreement of the people, through congress, as to time and method, is necessary.

It would be well, having in view even larger considerations of policy than those of purely economic nature, to endeavor to bring about closer commercial connections with the other peoples of the North American continent.

The necessity for wise economy is recommended upon congress.

The element of elasticity should be added to the currency; its volume need not necessarily be increased at present.

The executive departments should be reorganized and brought up to date.

All contributions by corporations to any political committee or for any political purpose should be forbidden by law.

The Hague conference is recommended to the attention of the country. The United States is for peace, yet forces for the right should not disarm. A general arbitration treaty between all the nations should be sought.

The Monroe Doctrine is still a fundamental principle; practice under it should be made to conform to present day conditions. Illustration of its application to South American countries, Santo Domingo and the Panama canal are given.

The army, though it need not be made larger, should be increased in efficiency and mobility; the coast artillery should be increased.

The navy should always be relatively larger than the army. Wisdom of recent policy regarding the navy has borne out the wisdom of the policy.

Sufficient to replace inefficient by efficient units. One battleship will probably be sufficient to replace inefficient by efficient units. Sea-going torpedo boats and destroyers are indispensable.

The naturalization laws should be thoroughly revised, as should the criminal law of the United States. There is lack of a statute covering breach of trust in the public service.

The public lands should be extended.

A greater merchant marine is much to be desired.

The pension bureau is doing excellent work. Congress should take action looking to the assumption of the care of Confederate graves.

There is need of more rigid examination of immigrants. Chinese merchants and students form a class by themselves, and injustice is being done them under the present law of exclusion.

The civil service law has proven its value; the copyright law should be revised; food adulterations should be fought through interstate commerce laws; pensions are recommended for those in the life-saving service.

The tariff on Philippine goods entering the United States should be removed. Hawaii should be fortified.

Porto Rico should be granted citizenship and Alaska should be allowed a delegate in congress. Joint statehood is recommended for Indian territory and Oklahoma.

The work of the state department should be improved.

The school in the north part of the town did not begin Monday, as expected, owing to the illness of the teacher.

There was no preaching at either church last Sunday evening, Dec. 4, as the storm for the ministers to come over the hill from Putney.

A little great grandson appeared at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Warren DeMott Tuesday, Nov. 28. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Benson. Mrs. Benson is Mr. DeMott's granddaughter, and Mr. Benson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Benson of Winhall.

**DUMMERSTON.**  
Lowell Patch has gone to Greenfield to work.

School began in the Slab Hollow district Monday.

Miss Ellen Marcy is boarding at Mrs. Jennie Patch's.

Rev. J. D. King of Putney will preach in the Congregational church next Sunday at 2 p. m.

The next regular meeting of the Grange will be Monday evening, Dec. 11, for election of officers for 1906 and choice of a delegate for the state Grange, and other business. A good attendance is desired.

Several of the townspeople attended the funeral of Mrs. Hiram Knapp at West Brattleboro Monday, a tribute of respect to a noble woman, who was a long-time resident of this place. She leaves a husband, son and daughter, and two grandsons to mourn her loss. Burial was at Dummerston Centre.

Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Downs, M. F. Evans and family were guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Brown Thanksgiving day. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Reed were at L. L. Stark's; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Miller, Maynard, Warren, Avery and Ernest Miller at J. A. Miller's; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Patch and Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Halladay at Mrs. Augusta Bennett's.

**WEST DOVER.**  
G. E. Dennison was with his daughter, Alta, at W. L. Upton's over Thanksgiving.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Adams and Verne L. Adams spent Thanksgiving at G. H. Adams's.

The village school began Monday after a vacation of two weeks. Miss Ethel Newell is teacher.

Mr. Plumb of Brattleboro was the guest of Miss Lela Cook over Sunday. Miss Cook returned to Brattleboro with him.

Christian Jones has rented his farm to his brother-in-law and moved his family into the Kent house, vacated by William Shippee.

**GREEN RIVER.**  
The winter term of school began Monday with Miss Minnie Thayer as teacher.

Warren Shepardson of Boston was with his aunt, Mrs. William Hillman, Sunday.

Miss Lena Reed, who was with her mother, Mrs. S. J. Cutting, a few days, returned Sunday to Greenfield.

Mrs. Marion Thomas and son, Clark, of Brattleboro, were Thanksgiving guests of Mrs. Thomas's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Thompson.

## IN OUR OWN STATE

### Drunken Quarrel Culminated in Murder at Bridgewater

Wilton B. Allard, 73, Crushed the Head of Thomas McCormick, 50, with an Ax—Allard in Jail.

A drunken quarrel culminated in murder at Bridgewater Saturday night, when Wilton B. Allard, 73, crushed the head of Thomas McCormick, 50, with an ax, dragged the man to the door and smashed his skull with an ax. Allard then went to the house of Charles Sprague, where he hid, and "got McCormick out of the way," and thought he wouldn't "be seen again for several years."

David Holmstrom, a neighbor, discovered the body of McCormick, and gave the alarm at Bridgewater village. Constable Allan Pinney later arrested Allard at his home, the man having just returned from Sprague's house.

Allard submitted quietly to arrest, but threatened to kill the officer for not allowing him another drink of whiskey, of which six bottles were found in the kitchen at the house where the tragedy occurred.

After Allard had been placed in the county jail at Woodstock by Constable Pinney he remarked that he guessed he would "have to hang for this."

State's Attorney Eustace was notified by telephone of the murder while at White River Junction, and he ordered a guard placed over McCormick's body, which lay in the place where he fell until 9 o'clock Sunday morning, three men standing watch in the drizzling rain.

Upon the arrival of the state's attorney and Drs. Holbrook and Conner, the body of McCormick was removed to the hospital at Woodstock, and an autopsy was held at Allard's home, and the body was brought to Woodstock.

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Claims that Tobacco, Liquor and Morphine Were Given to Little Boy.

A divorce suit in which the petitioner alleges that her husband has given his six-year-old son liquor, tobacco and morphine and other drugs, was brought at Burlington Monday by Almeda Merrow against Dr. J. W. Merrow, who is widely known throughout Vermont and eastern New York state. Mrs. Merrow claims that she married Dr. Merrow in 1893, and that two children have been born to them. In April, 1899, she claims to have secured a divorce in Cincinnati, where she claims the custody of the children was given her and the business of Dr. Merrow was decreed to her. She further claims she and Dr. Merrow were remarried in June of the same year.

In this suit Mrs. Merrow names Miss Grace Richards of Dr. Merrow, now employed by Dr. Merrow, as co-defendant. She further alleges intolerable severity and refusal to support as grounds for divorce. Mrs. Merrow claims Dr. Merrow is worth \$10,000 and that his income is from \$300 to \$500 a week.

An injunction has been issued by Judge Powers of the superior court, restraining Dr. Merrow from exercising care over his two children and from disposing of his property. There will be a hearing Saturday on the question of temporary alimony.

J. H. Goulding of Wilmington Named as National Patriotic Instructor.

Major S. H. Wood of St. Albans, department commander of the department of Vermont, G. A. R., has made the following appointments and they have been forwarded to the adjutant-general for approval: George P. Blair, assistant commander-general for the department of Vermont on the staff of Corp. James Tanner, commander-in-chief; Col. Klittridge Haskins, commander of the 1st regiment of Rutland, and Albert McDowd of Bennington, aides-de-camp on the staff of the commander-in-chief.

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Bail Secured in Wood Alcohol Case at Richmond.

Wallace W. White, his son, Almon White, and daughter, Miss Eva White of Richmond, charged with manslaughter in causing the death of Mrs. Mary Leighton of