

frontier

~~national greatness. Petitions for these necessities may not meet with favorable reception at the hands of members of congress representing districts which have been long accustomed to receive an undue share of appropriations from the national treasury.~~ We know by experience how requests of this nature sent in from the interior have been misunderstood, as if the people who preferred them were mere beggars, never satisfied, but always calling for more. I remember to have heard when our pioneer friend, Judge Jacobs, was delegate to congress, that on one occasion his representations of the needs of this section were answered by a congressman in this manner—the M. C. said: "These territories are just like spoiled children, they are always crying for what they should not have. They deserve to be spanked." This class of obstructionists only try our patience. They may retard, but they cannot prevent the growth of commerce or the upbuilding of new states. Ours is the best government on earth. The sense of justice is strong in the American people, and when this sentiment shall have been appealed to, they will insist that congress shall do right by the people of Alaska. My confidence was strengthened when I read, in the reports, of Memorial day exercises in various places, the remarks made at Brooklyn by Gov. Roosevelt. After referring to existing conditions in Alaska, he said: "Every good citizen should bow his head in shame that such a request should be made because of the neglect of the United States government. Let every man do all in his power, and with all his force, to see that every colony over which the flag waves be governed so that the people will believe it to be a great thing to live under that flag."

As my conclusion to this address I will offer some resolutions which it will please me to have this Association of Washington Pioneers adopt:

"Resolved, By the pioneers of the state of Washington, assembled at their annual reunion, that we commend to the attention of all the people of the United States the sentiment expressed by Gov. Roosevelt, of New York, in his address on last Memorial day, in favor of good government for Alaska, and all American colonies, and that our thanks are hereby tendered to him for his declaration on that subject.

"Resolved, That the United States should hold all of Alaska, including its harbors, with boundaries as we received it from Russia.

"Resolved, That the people of Alaska are entitled to have good government inaugurated speedily, and we ask congress to so provide."