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*The dignity of a calling is its utility.*

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## The American Congress.

The American Congress is intended as a governmental body suited to the requirements of a republican community. It consists of two elective Houses,—the House of Representatives and the Senate. Representatives are elected for a period of two years, Senators for six; but the term of one-third of the Senators expires every two years, so that the body is renewed to the extent of one third at the end of each biennial period. Representatives are chosen by direct popular vote. Formerly the ratio of representation to population was one to thirty thousand; but this ratio promised to result in an inordinately large House, and consequently the number of representatives has been fixed at three hundred and fifty-six. Senators are chosen, not by a direct popular vote, but by the State Legislatures, each state being entitled to send two Senators. The Senate is a comparatively small body, consisting at present of only eighty-eight members. The salary of both Senators and Representatives is \$5,000 and travelling expenses, together with \$125 for stationery. A notable feature of electoral usage in the United States is, that candidates for either House must be residents of the state or electoral district which they aspire to represent.