

Almost one-twentieth of the population of the United States is widowed.

With the additions recently announced the number of members of the British House of Lords is 572.

Wheat, cotton, iron and many other things which are produced in vast quantities in the United States are at wonderfully low figures.

That Americans have a "sweet tooth" is shown to the New York Mail and Express by the fact that they consume 25,000 tons of candy a year.

If America were as densely populated as Europe it would contain as many people as there are in the world at the present time, estimates the Detroit Free Press.

According to a recent article in the Railroad Gazette the steam city railroads of London earn only \$73,000 a mile, while those of New York City earn \$300,000 a mile per annum.

There is a boy in Sing Sing (N. Y.) Prison who was sent up for six years and a half, for stealing \$1.50. It has just been discovered that he did not steal it, and there is talk of his demanding an indemnity from the State.

Cities in Norway do not grow quite so rapidly as some of those in the West, muses the New York Tribune. Tromso, in that country, has just celebrated its 1000th anniversary. In that time it has grown from sixty people to 6000! The inhabitants are chiefly devoted to fishing.

It looks to the New Orleans Picayune as though every country in the world would be added to the list of sugar producers and refiners. A number of Japanese merchants representing large capital propose starting a joint stock concern, and establishing works for refining between Hiogo and Osaka and also near Yokohama; and it is said have already taken steps to import the necessary machinery.

Of all cities of the world, Paris presents a gathering of humankind most fearfully mixed in its elements of disorder. The criminal brought up from childhood in the capital will risk his life for the privilege of living there. Accordingly, many criminals who have been forbidden residences in Paris, in spite of the strictest surveillance of the barriers, will work their way in again and take up their career of crime under other names.

Three streets in Paris are to be named after the authors, Edmond About, Guy de Maupassant and Octave Feuillet. Taine, the critic and historian; Brillat-Savarin, the epicure; Charcot, the great physician, and Fourier, the socialist philosopher, whose communistic colony in New Jersey half a century ago was a more interesting experiment, the Chicago Record thinks, than even the Brook Farm—all these are to have their names perpetuated in the new baptism of streets that is taking place in Paris.

A Bengalee magistrate, having been informed of the whereabouts of a mad dog, armed himself and went to the place where the rabid animal lay by a house door. He learned upon inquiry that two women were in the house and sent word to them that he was about to shoot the dog and therefore they should not be alarmed by the report, and that, as he might not inflict a fatal wound at the first fire, and, in fact, might miss, they should remain within until notified. Such a supreme courtesy is in marked contrast with that of western civilization.

While Russia is behindhand in most things pertaining to progress and enlightenment, she is distinctly in advance of the remainder of the world as far as the regulation of the bicycle traffic is concerned. Before anyone is permitted to ride on any public thoroughfare he is compelled to obtain a license at a cost of a dollar, and to have his name and address entered upon the police registers of his district, in token whereof he is presented with a square piece of leather with his number in large figures of bright metal. This he must have permanently affixed to the back of the cycle, so that it may be seen by the police. But, prior to receiving the license, the knight of the wheel is forced to undergo an examination as to whether he can ride sufficiently well to avoid becoming a public danger. This examination consists in the description of a figure 8 set round two sticks, and he is obliged to do this to the satisfaction of the official examiners, one of whom is usually the president or vice-president of the local bicycle club.

The sugar palm of South America is a rival of the New England maple.

Australia has more places of public worship in proportion to population than any other country.

The peasants of Pergine, near Triente, are using electric light in their houses, as they can get it cheaper than kerosene.

There are more paste diamonds and artificial stones of all kinds made in Glasgow, Scotland, than in any other city in the world.

Whenever a murder is committed in Argentina it is customary to put every possible witness in prison and keep him there until the real culprit is convicted.

Of the 5,000,000 inhabitants of London more than 1,000,000 have to live on less than \$5 a week for each family, while more than 300,000 are in chronic poverty.

Mme. Blanc says that Bret Harle is, of all the American authors of the times, the most popular in France and that Howells is not generally liked by the French.

"Fugitive trains" was added to railroad nomenclature during the big strike. It applied, explains the Chicago Herald, to freights that started out for a certain destination not knowing whether they would "git there" or somewhere else.

It seems to the New York Advertiser as though in many ways the authorities of Great Britain were adopting American methods. The latest instance of this is shown in the investigation now progressing of the cruelties perpetrated upon prisoners confined at Dartmouth.

There is great consternation among the lovers of bull-fighting in Spain because Guerrita, the only remaining great fighter, has declared his unalterable decision to retire from the ring. The reason given is that he is worth over \$200,000 and that his wife suffers terrible anxiety every time he fights.

Most of the States have had a system of commutation for good behavior of prisoners. Massachusetts is just putting that kind of a ticket-of-leave law in force. The first subject for clemency is a man now in the thirties, a splendid specimen physically, who fourteen years ago was given an eighteen-year sentence for burglary.

E. B. Bolton, of the Royal Society, has been conducting some interesting experiments to show the effect of environment on animals. The pepper moth was the particular insect he studied. He found that if an egg was put into a pill box lined with gilt paper the caterpillar produced would be golden in color. When the box was black the caterpillar also became black. And lastly, when he mixed different colors the caterpillar became mottled.

Referring to the common statement that electricity is still in its infancy, Professor Dolbear recently said: "Electricity is not in its infancy. Despite what has been done there is nothing in the present use of electricity that has not been known for many years. Arc lights were known eighty years ago; the telegraph is sixty years old, the telephone thirty, and the incandescent lamp ditto. We are not at work with new things or on new principles. If you are running a motor with electricity, it is not a new discovery in electricity to apply the same power to the operation of a lathe or a street car."

Christian people who spend any length of time in Europe are often somewhat at a loss, avers the New York Independent, with regard to church attendance. In almost every important center there are Evangelical churches of various denominations; but they are not always widely known, and it is sometimes difficult to learn the full facts as to the provision for public worship. In Paris and Berlin the American chapels are well known. In Dresden where there is an English and American colony, chiefly American, of about 3000 people, comparatively few have known of the Presbyterian church, which is rather a union church under the care of the Rev. J. Davis Bowden, one of the most eloquent preachers on the Continent. The church has no distinctive church building, but meets in a hall, and earnestly calls for the support of all Christian Americans who spend a time in that city.

## TARIFF BILL IS PASSED.

### HOUSE ACCEPTED THE SENATE AMENDMENTS.

Action of the Democratic Caucus—Speaker Crisp's Motion to Recede Adopted—Separate Bills Passed Putting Sugar, Iron Ore, Coal and Barbed Wire on the Free List.

At a caucus of House Democrats in the Capitol at Washington it was decided by an overwhelming vote to accept the Senate tariff bill. A statement was made by Chairman Wilson to the effect substantially that there was no prospect for tariff legislation unless the Senate bill was adopted. The motion to accept was made by Speaker Crisp and was adopted by a vote of 113 to 23. There was no division on the vote to pass separate bills, placing coal, sugar, iron ore and barbed wire on the free list.

Mr. Holman, Chairman of the caucus, took the chair. When the roll call showed that 133 members were present was completed a hush of expectancy fell upon the caucus.

Mr. Wilson (Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee) took the floor. Although outwardly calm and cool he was manifestly laboring under deep emotion. His speech for the first five minutes was general in character and contained no specific points. It was devoted to the beginning to an explanation of the embarrassments under which the House conferees had labored. He said that the representatives of the House had gone into the conferees with a desire of faithfully representing the wishes of their constituents. That they had failed to reach a satisfactory conclusion—a conclusion honorable alike to the House and to the Democratic party—was not their fault.

Mr. Wilson referred to the proposition made to the House conferees by their Senatorial associates to accept free sugar. This proposition, he said, was rejected, inasmuch as the representatives of the House had ascertained that a tariff existed in the Senate to defeat tariff legislation or postpone its consideration until next December if free sugar were made a part of the conference report. He turned at this point and called upon his associates, Messrs. Montgomery, Brockbridge, McMillan and Turner, to substantiate this statement.

Mr. McMillan immediately arose and said that from the beginning of the conferees they had been given to understand from day to day that any displacement of the tariff votes on sugar, coal and iron ore would lead to absolute defeat, or, at least, the postponement of the bill.

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When Mr. Wilson had finished Speaker Crisp arose and was greeted with applause. He began by saying that the House must take the Senate bill as it comes. The bill must be adopted, the House would make a determined effort for free sugar. He elaborated his statement that the Senate bill must be accepted or there would be no tariff legislation at this session; and his declaration that the House of Representatives had used every honorable and fair means to secure the passage of their bill without avail was vigorously applauded.

Speaker Crisp closed his brief speech by offering a resolution that the House recede from its position and accept the Senate bill. The resolution also included a provision placing barbed wire, sugar, coal and iron ore on the free list by a series of separate bills by every citizen of the United States, whether residing at home or abroad, and every person residing therein, whether said gains, profits or income be derived from any kind of property, rents, interest, dividends, or from any source whatever, trade, employment or vocation carried on in the United States or elsewhere, or from any other source whatever, a tax of two per centum on the amount so derived, and the amount so derived to be applied to the payment of the duties on the goods, and a like tax shall be levied, collected and paid annually upon the gains, profits and income from all property owned and of every business, trade or profession carried on in the United States by persons residing without the United States.

"And the tax herein provided for shall be assessed by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue and collected and paid upon the gains, profits and income for the preceding year, by every citizen of the United States, whether residing at home or abroad, and every person residing therein, whether said gains, profits or income be derived from any kind of property, rents, interest, dividends, or from any source whatever, trade, employment or vocation carried on in the United States or elsewhere, or from any other source whatever, a tax of two per centum on the amount so derived, and the amount so derived to be applied to the payment of the duties on the goods, and a like tax shall be levied, collected and paid annually upon the gains, profits and income from all property owned and of every business, trade or profession carried on in the United States by persons residing without the United States."

"On the motion to accept the Senate bill the vote resulted 113 yeas, 23 nays. Among those voting in the negative were Messrs. Robertson, Davey, Meyer and Price, of Louisiana; Tarsney, of Missouri; Warner, Straus, Tracy, Crocker, Covert and Dunphy, of New York; Kilgore, of Texas; Dooley, of Missouri; Cooper, of Indiana; and McKaig, Rayner, Busk and Talbot, of Maryland.

On the motion to pass separate bills placing sugar, coal, iron ore and barbed wire on the free list, the vote was 113 yeas, 23 nays. The resolution, offered by Mr. Tucker, of Virginia, was adopted, thanking the House conferees for their fight for the House bill. Having completed the work of the caucus, the meeting was adjourned sine die.

The Bill Passes the House.

A special dispatch to the New York Herald describes the scenes in the House of Representatives while the tariff bill was on its passage as follows:

For once during this long tariff agitation the expected has happened. The House caucus agreed upon the Senate bill, the bill was passed six hours later, and the separate bills were rushed through before adjournment putting sugar, iron ore, coal and barbed wire on the free list.

This was not accomplished without a display of managerial vigor, parliamentary skill and personal courage astonishing even to those who participated in the proceedings.

The House wing of the Capitol was a scene of excitement from early morning, and the Democratic caucus met, to a late hour at night, when the "pop gun" bill, amid the yells of the Democratic majority, placed sugar on the free list.

The galleries were packed with eager spectators all day, and the hour of adjournment was reached at twenty-five minutes after 10 o'clock, p. m., few vacant seats were visible in the vast auditorium.

On the floor legislative pandemonium reigned all day. Not in years has the House of Representatives been the theater of such continuous uproar and tumult. It was a day of cheers and jeers, of speeches and yells, roll calls and shouts of laughter and applause.

Mr. Turner, of Georgia, fell the task of explanation and defense, and to Mr. Reed, of Maine, the leading of the assault upon the resolution giving the tariff bill the right of way. After Mr. Turner had spoken in favor of the resolution it was passed by a vote of 97 yeas. The Democrats who voted against their party on this proposition were Messrs. Covert, New York; Davey, Louisiana; Gorman, Michigan; Johnson, Ohio; Meyer, Price and Robertson, Louisiana; and Warner, New York. Mr. Crocker did not vote.

York, and Tarsney, of Missouri, both Democrats, denounced the Senate bill. Speaker Crisp spoke in favor of the bill. Mr. Wilson briefly concluded the debate and the vote was taken, resulting in the adoption of the Senate bill by 182 yeas to 105 nays. The Democrats who voted in the negative were: Messrs. Bartlett and Crocker, of New York; Davey, of Louisiana; Dunphy, of New York; Everett, of Massachusetts; Gorman, of Michigan; Hendrix, of New York; Johnson, of Ohio; Meyer and Price, of Louisiana; Tarsney, of Missouri; and Warner, of New York. Seven Populists voted for the bill, and all the Republicans were recorded against it.

This disposal of the Senate bill as far as Congress was concerned, if it was already 6.30 o'clock, but the programme for the day included the passage of the four "pop gun" bills which the special order provided for, and Chairman Wilson sent up the first one, which provided for putting coal, shale and iron ore on the free list. It was passed by a vote of 160 to 104, and then the bill for free iron ore was taken up.

The House had filled up again on the roll call on the previous vote, and from that time on until the end of the session there was a continual hubbub on the floor. The free iron ore bill went through by a vote of 163 to 102.

The bill putting barbed wire on the free list was then passed by 187 yeas to 81 nays. The final measure was the Sugar bill, placing all sugars on the free list. Messrs. Price and Boatner, of Louisiana, made a last plea for their State, and Mr. McMillan gave some figures as to the immense profits of the Sugar Trust, after which Chairman Wilson closed the debate briefly, and the vote was taken, resulting in 276 yeas and 111 nays—all the Republicans voting aye. It was now after 10 o'clock, and the House adjourned without further action.

Glut of the Tariff Bill.

The new tariff bill provides the following rates of duty upon the great staples which have been the bones of contention: All raw sugars, 40 per cent. ad valorem; sugars above No. 16 (refined), one-eighth per cent. additional; sugars produced in bounty paying countries, one-tenth per cent. additional to these rates. Hawaiian sugar is still at 40 per cent. ad valorem. Iron ore, 40 cents per ton; pigs, 84 per cent. ad valorem; 7-20 of one cent per pound. Lead ore and dress iron, 5% of one cent per pound, and silver-lead bearing ore the same duty as the lead contained therein. Tobacco for wrappers, \$1.50 per pound unstemmed; \$2.25 stemmed. Cigars and cigarettes, 84 per cent. ad valorem.

Coal, bituminous and large slack, 15 cents per ton; bituminous steam coal and iron ore, 25 per cent. ad valorem; set, 30 per cent.; uncut, 10 per cent.; glaziers' and miners' diamonds, free.

Logs and sawed lumber and timber (as tropical woods) and wood of all kinds, 1-15 cents per cord upon October 1.

Marble, rough, 50 cents; dressed, 85 cents per cubic foot.

White and red lead, 15 cents per pound. Under the internal revenue sections of the bill playing cards are taxed 2 cents a pack; an income tax of 2 per cent. on incomes above \$4000 is provided for; also a tax on corporations of 1 per cent.

Whisky is taxed at \$1.10 per gallon, and the bonded period is fixed at eight years. The income tax provisions of the bill are as follows: That from and after the first day of January, 1900, and until the first day of January, 1900, there shall be assessed, levied, collected, and paid annually upon the gains, profits and income received in the preceding calendar year, by every citizen of the United States, whether residing at home or abroad, and every person residing therein, whether said gains, profits or income be derived from any kind of property, rents, interest, dividends, or from any source whatever, trade, employment or vocation carried on in the United States or elsewhere, or from any other source whatever, a tax of two per centum on the amount so derived, and the amount so derived to be applied to the payment of the duties on the goods, and a like tax shall be levied, collected and paid annually upon the gains, profits and income from all property owned and of every business, trade or profession carried on in the United States by persons residing without the United States.

"And the tax herein provided for shall be assessed by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue and collected and paid upon the gains, profits and income for the preceding year, by every citizen of the United States, whether residing at home or abroad, and every person residing therein, whether said gains, profits or income be derived from any kind of property, rents, interest, dividends, or from any source whatever, trade, employment or vocation carried on in the United States or elsewhere, or from any other source whatever, a tax of two per centum on the amount so derived, and the amount so derived to be applied to the payment of the duties on the goods, and a like tax shall be levied, collected and paid annually upon the gains, profits and income from all property owned and of every business, trade or profession carried on in the United States by persons residing without the United States."

BRYANT CENTENNIAL.

Exercises in Cummington, Mass., Commemorating His Birthday.

The memory of William Cullen Bryant was honored a few days ago, at Cummington, Mass. It was the centennial observance of the birth of the poet. Exercises were held in a grove a few rods beyond the Bryant homestead. It was in these woods that "Thanatopsis" was written. Many of the visitors could see the traces of the initials cut on the trees by the Bryant boys.

The exercises were opened with an address of welcome by Lorenzo H. Toser, the librarian of the Bryant Library, on behalf of the townspeople, and then Parke Godwin, of New York, who was associated with Mr. Bryant for many years, and who married his eldest daughter, was made the presiding officer. Godwin delivered a brief address, and then introduced Edwin R. Brown, of Elmwood, Ill., a native of Cummington, and the orator of the day. John Howard Bryant, now eighty-seven years old, the only surviving member of the post, read his brother's poem of "The Bivouac," and allowed it with two compositions of his own, the first being "A Monody" written in 1878, just after the death of William Cullen Bryant, and the second, "At Eighty-seven," written for this occasion.

After singing some familiar tunes, under the direction of Mrs. Julia Shaw, including Mrs. Julia Ward Howe's "Battle Hymn of the Republic," an adjournment was taken for dinner. After lunch the people were called to order again and several addresses were given by distinguished men and women. Mrs. Julia Ward Howe was present and read a poem written for the sixtieth birthday of her father, and first read at the Century Club in New York City. To this Mrs. Howe had added several stanzas appropriate to the occasion. John W. Hutchinson, the only surviving member of the famous family of abolitionists, whose songs caused much enthusiasm in the old abolition days, was also present by invitation, and sang "Old Friends Are the Truest."

BURIED UNDER A ROCK.

Four Men Killed While Blasting for a Flume in Wyoming.

A terrible accident, resulting in the death of four men and the serious injury of two others, occurred at the Mohave Tie camp, in Granite Canon, on Tongue River, thirty-five miles northwest of Sheridan, Wyo., on August 4. The men were working on a flume for the Burlington & Missouri Railroad extension to Montana. A flume was being constructed in the bend of the river and a blast of 300 pounds of giant powder was exploded. After the smoke had cleared away a number of workmen were removing the rock and dirt that had been loosened by the explosion, when, without warning, a huge pile of rock fell from the overhanging cliff, burying four men beneath it. The dead are: F. P. Gallagher, N. E. Watts, William Aggroves and John Hendrickson.

JENNIE FISCH, stolen from Grand Rapids, Mich., eighteen years ago by gypsies, has been reunited to her surviving relatives.

## DEAD IN A FIERY WRECK.

### PASSENGERS BURNED IN A RAILROAD DISASTER.

An Engine and Two Cars Plunge From a Trestle Forty Feet Above Ground Near Lincoln, Neb.—The Work of Train Wreckers—Horrible Fate of the Victims.

A fearful wreck, involving the loss of eleven lives, one engine and two cars, occurred five miles south of Lincoln, Neb., on the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad where it crosses on a high trestle the tracks of the Union Pacific and Burlington and Missouri River Railroads, shortly after 10 o'clock p. m. All indications point to train wreckers as the cause.

The dead are: C. D. Stannard, conductor, Council Bluffs, perished in a fiery flames; Lewis family; William Craig, fireman, buried under engine, leaves family; Ike Dewey, engineer, Council Bluffs, buried under engine; grain dealer, of Fairbury, name unknown, buried to death in the wreck; five traveling men, names unknown, buried under car burned to death; two farmers from Janes, Neb., en route for South Dakota, burned to death.

Injured: Harry Foote, brakeman, leg broken; C. H. Cherry, postal clerk, terribly cut about the face and head; Port Scott, express messenger, back injured and cut on the head; O. S. Bell, Lincoln, traveling man, injured internally.

Train No. 8, drawn by engine No. 213, is an accommodation called the "Fort Worth accommodation," and is due to arrive at Lincoln at 9.40 p. m. On the night of the accident it was about ten minutes late, and was making up time when it struck the trestle that crosses Salt Lake Creek, about four miles from the city and two from the penitentiary. When it struck the trestle the engine burst, and the engine, spreading, ignited the wooden supports and the coaches behind it, and in a few moments the bridge, dry as a tinder from its long exposure to the sun, was a mass of flames. The coaches falling upon the coaches lying in the ditches, set them afire, and the intense heat, with its load of human freight, below, was a mass of flames.

It was a awful sight. Willing hands were there to help, but little could be done. The engine had fallen first, then the combination car of smoker and express coach fell partially upon that, and the rear coach falling behind, telescoped that car, thus pinning those unfortunate who were in the smoker, so that it was impossible to save them or for them to escape.

Colonel C. J. Bliss and Jay McDowell, Fairbury passengers, and the brakeman, Harry Foote, were the first to extricate themselves from the rear car. They immediately started to work, and after a half hour's effort, the fourteen occupants of the car coach were saved.

It was heroic work. The flames were scorching in their intensity, but those three men struggled hard to save their fellow sufferers. Rapidly the work of rescue went on, until the entire fourteen rear coach passengers, including three women, were rescued and laid upon the bank beside the bridge.

Those engaged in the work of rescue begged them to assist, but they were too frightened and excited to do anything but lay on the bank and moan. Many of them were severely injured and were unable to help.

Harry Foote, the injured brakeman, is the one who advances the theory that the train was intentionally wrecked. According to his story, a rail was removed on the bridge and the fish-plate and a crowbar were found in the grass near by.

The evidence was plainly there and unmistakable. Marks made by a wrench on a loosened rail were plainly visible, and the marks of the crowbar on the cross ties were there so plain that no lantern was needed to examine them.

The wood of the ties was deeply dented where the crowbar had been inserted and the spikes which had been pulled out were lying around loose on the bridge.

Just after this discovery City Detective Malone arrived and was informed of the facts and has the matter under investigation.

All the injured were brought to Lincoln and are being given excellent care. The doctors think all will recover. The loss to the railroad company is not less than \$30,000.

RESCUED FROM THE ICE.

All the Members of the Wellman Exploring Party Safe.

Walter Wellman and his companions, with the crew of the wrecked steamer Ragnvald Jarl, arrived at Tromsø, Norway, from Spitzbergen on board the fishing yacht Bern time.

Wellman says the expedition had almost reached the eighty-first parallel of latitude when forced to turn back on May 12th. The weather had suddenly become intensely severe, and northward from the Seven Isles broken ice made progress impossible. The expedition then traversed the coast of Northeast Land, most of which was unexplored. Professor O. B. French surveyed much of the coast, adding to the map Cape Gresham, Whitney, Armour and Scott, and Walsh Island.

Wellman and seven others started on July 1, with an aluminum boat, to force a way northward over the ice-pack. After a severe struggle they were compelled to return. They started on July 4 to return to Walden Island. In crossing Dove Bay they had to wade through water up to their waists. Many other hardships were suffered. The aluminum boat rendered excellent service, resisting pressure which certainly would have destroyed ordinary boats. At last, one of the party, broke his leg and had to be carried to Walden Island, where they arrived on July 22.

The Walden and Seven Isles were still hemmed in with ice. After waiting two weeks it was decided on August 4 to push southward. It was risky work, but all succeeded in reaching Low Island safely. On August 6 the Bernina was sighted. They sailed on August 7, calling at Dana's Isle for Oym and Hoyerlan and the provisions.

Wellman declares that he will make another attempt in 1899 to reach the Pole by the Spitzbergen route.

BALL-PLAYERS PERISH.

Seven Killed Outright and Others Fatally Hurt by Lightning.

A crowd of boys and men were playing ball at De Kalb, Texas, when a shower drove them to shelter beneath a large oak tree. Lightning struck the tree.

Seven were killed outright. They were John Jacobs, Walter Atchley, Thomas Blanchard, Will Bentley, John Jackson, Charles Petty and Will Walsh.

About a dozen were hurt, and it was thought some of them would die.

C. W. WHELEY, Jr., United States Consul at St. Etienne, France, says that throughout France the harvest outlook is very encouraging. The hay crop is very heavy and of excellent quality. The price per ton has fallen one-half. The cereal crop is reported very good.

## FIFTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

The Senate.

17th Day.—Mr. Hill's resolution that the tariff conferees report an agreement or disagreement stirred up a lively debate, but the matter went over without action.

17th Day.—After the morning business had been disposed of, Mr. Hill's resolution was laid before the Senate and he proposed to modify it so as to read: "That the conferees on the part of the Senate who are now considering the differences between the two Houses on the Tariff bill, report to the Senate if they are likely to propose an agreement, and, if not, to report the principal items of disagreement, delivering said bill to the Secretary of the Senate for the further action of the Senate thereon. After an all-day debate the resolution was defeated by a tie vote, the Vice-President casting the deciding vote against it.

17th Day.—In executive session the Chinese treaty was ratified by a vote of 47 yeas to 29 nays.

17th Day.—The four free-material bills passed by the House were read once, and Mr. Hill gave notice of an amendment to such providing for the repeal of the income tax.—Senator Hill introduced a letter from Louis C. Sartoris, retired, to be Rear Admiral on the retired list, and a House bill authorizing Soldiers' Home managers to extend outdoor relief to veterans were passed.

17th Day.—The conference report on the Deficiency bill was agreed to, the only matter still left in dispute being the amendment of the Senate appropriating \$1,800,559 to pay the Secret of the Court of Claims in favor of the Southern Railway Lumber Company. A further conference was ordered.—The conference report on the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill, with agreement on all points, was presented. Inquiry was made as to the Senate bill appropriating \$105,000 for the families of the twenty-one Government employes killed in the Ford's Theatre disaster. After debate the report was agreed to.—The House joint resolution providing for the extension of the appropriations till August 24th was taken up, amended by fixing the time to August 20th, and passed.

The rest of the day was devoted to debate on the Free Trade Lumber Company. Secretary Carlisle was read, saying it would produce a deficit of \$30,000,000. Messrs. Vest and Vilas made the principal speeches.

17th Day.—The Senate passed the bill for the exclusion and deportation of alien anarchists.—The Senate disposed of the four House bills to place on the free list sugar, coal, iron ore, and barbed wire, by referring each of them to the Finance Committee by votes of nearly 50 yeas to 10 nays. The Finance Committee warned the Civil Service Commission that it must be respectful in its communications to the Senate.—Mr. Kyle tried to close the Senate restaurant bar during recess.

The House.

16th Day.—The Senate amendments to the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill were taken up and discussed during the entire session.

16th Day.—The House, by a vote of 55 to 127, rejected a motion by Mr. Wise, of Virginia, directing the House conferees to recede from their disagreement to the Senate amendment to the Sundry Civil bill appropriating \$250,000 to purchase for the Government Printing Office a site owned by ex-Senator Mahone.—The House then adopted the proposition of Chairman Bankhead, of the Committee on Public Buildings, to buy additional ground adjoining the building now in use.

16th Day.—By a vote of 182 yeas to 105 nays the House passed the Tariff bill with the Senate amendments, and it was then sent to the President.

16th Day.—A bill to enable the Secretary of Agriculture to more perfectly carry out the purposes of the act of March 3, 1891, providing for the inspection of live stock and meats that are to be imported into the United States, was passed.—A bill was passed authorizing the construction of a bridge over Newark Bay by Hudson and Union Counties, N. J.—A bill providing that all contracts heretofore made by the Government of any sum of money, whether in gold, silver, or coin, may be discharged by any money which is by law receivable for the payment of debts when the contract matures, was discussed for a time without action.—The conference report on the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill, of an agreement on all items, was agreed to. The report on the General Deficiency bill gave rise to a discussion of the Sundry Civil bill appropriating \$1,800,000 to pay the Southern Pacific Railroad Company for the transportation of troops, mails and merchandise, under a judgment of the Supreme Court, which was not concluded when the House adjourned.

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MONTHLY CROP REPORT.

High Average for Cotton, But a Great Loss Shown in Corn.

The returns to the Statistical Division of the Department of Agriculture for the month of August make the condition of the cotton 81.8, an increase of 2.2 points over the July condition and 3.5 over that of June, the condition of June and July being respectively 88.3 and 89.6. The condition August 1, 1898, was 80.4, or 11.4 points lower than the condition for the same date this year. The averages by States are: Virginia 96, North Carolina 95, South Carolina 95, Georgia 85, Florida 23, Alabama 94, Mississippi 97, Louisiana 96, Texas 85, Arkansas 96, Tennessee 94, Missouri 95, and Oklahoma 93.

The average report of the statisticians of the department shows a decline in corn of nearly twenty-six points since July last, the average for the entire breadth being 60.1, against 86 for the month of July. The condition August, 1898, was 87. The great decline is due almost wholly to the extensive and unprecedentedly severe drought that set in since the last report, and to the hot, dry winds that swept over the States of Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa and parts of other Western States. In some localities the crop has been injured beyond recovery, while in others timely rains would go far toward assuring fair yields. The averages for the principal States are: Ohio 79, Kentucky 80, Indiana 85, Illinois 75, Iowa 45, Missouri 82, Kansas 49, Nebraska 83, and South Dakota 22.

The condition of spring wheat has fallen since the last report 1.3 points, being 71.1, against 68.4 for the month of July. The condition by States is as follows: Wisconsin 79, Minnesota 76, Iowa 82, Kansas 30, Nebraska 41, South Dakota 29, North Dakota 75, Washington 83, and Oregon 93.

The activities of winter wheat from correspondents and thrashers indicate a good yield of excellent quality.

The condition of oats has declined 1.2 points since the date of last report, being 74.5, against 75.7 in July. The condition for August, 1898, was 73.3.

The condition of spring rye is 70.8, against 81.7 last month, and 73.5 last year. The average condition of barley is 63.5, against 74.8 last month, being a decline of 7 points. The average of buckwheat is reported at 96.5, as compared with last year, and a condition of 82.3, against 88.8, or 6.5 points lower than at the same date last year. Average condition of hay, as compared with that of 1898 is 82.4, condition of same is 75.6, against 77.3 last month. The average condition of rice August 1 was 91, substantially the same as last month. A further decline of nearly 4 points in average condition of apples, being 44, against 47.6 last month, is reported. The condition of peaches has fallen since the last report, and now stands at 22.8. The condition of grapes, while higher than in other apples or peaches, is lower than for any year since 1890. The condition of potatoes is 74, against