

McKINLEY'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

REVENUE MUST BE INCREASED.

A Readjustment of the Tariff is Urgently Recommended.

The president Monday sent the following message to congress: "To the Congress of the United States:

"Regretting the necessity which has required me to call you together, I feel that your assembling in an extraordinary session is indispensable because of the condition in which we find the revenues of the government. It is conceded that its current expenditures are greater than its receipts, and that such a condition has existed for now more than three years. With unlimited means at our command, we are presenting the remarkable prospect of increasing our public debt by borrowing money to meet the ordinary outlays incident upon even an economical and prudent administration of the government. An examination of the subject discloses this fact in every detail and leads inevitably to the conclusion that the condition of the revenue which allows it is unjustifiable and should be corrected.

"We find by the reports of the secretary of the treasury that the revenues for the year ending June 30, 1892, from all sources, were \$428,868,292.22, and the expenditures for all purposes were \$415,933,896.56, leaving an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$12,934,395.66. During that fiscal year \$40,570,457.98 were paid upon the public debt, which has been reduced since March 1, 1892, \$259,976,890, the annual interest charge decreased \$11,884,575.00. The revenues for the government from all sources during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, amounted to \$461,716,561.94, and its expenditures to \$469,974,887.67, showing an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$2,341,674.29.

A FINANCIAL EXHIBIT.

"Since that time the receipts of the fiscal year and, with few exceptions, of no month of any fiscal year, have exceeded the expenditures. The receipts of the government, from all sources during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, were \$372,802,492.89, and its expenditures \$442,605,758.98, leaving a deficit of \$70,803,266.09. The receipts of the government from all sources during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, amounted to \$389,369,339.58, and its expenditures \$469,128.78 in the ordinary expenses of the government, as compared with the previous fiscal year, its income was still not sufficient to provide for its daily necessities, and the gold reserve in the treasury for the redemption of greenbacks was drawn upon to meet them. But this did not suffice, and the government then resorted to loans to replenish the reserve.

"In February, 1894, \$50,000,000 in bonds were issued, and in November following a second issue of \$50,000,000 was deemed necessary. The sum of \$117,171,795 was realized by the sale of these bonds, but the reserve was steadily decreased until, on February 8, 1895, a third sale of \$62,315,400 in bonds for \$65,116,344 was announced to congress.

"The receipts of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, were \$390,373,203.90, and the expenditures \$443,178,426.48, showing a deficit of \$52,805,223.18. A further loan of \$100,000,000 was negotiated by the government in February, 1896, the sale netting \$111,166,246, and swelling the aggregate of bonds issued within three years to \$262,345,400. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, the revenues of the government, from all sources, amounted to \$439,475,408.17, while its expenditures were \$449,678,654.48, or an excess of expenditures over receipts of \$25,203,245.70. In other words, the total receipts for the three fiscal years ending June 30, 1896, were insufficient by \$137,811,729.46 to meet the total expenditures.

CONDITIONS NOW EXISTING.

"Nor has this condition since improved. For the first half of the present fiscal year the receipts of the government, exclusive of postal revenues, were \$187,507,693.76, and its expenditures, exclusive of postal service, \$195,410,000.22, or an excess of expenditures over receipts of \$7,902,306.46. In January of this year the receipts, exclusive of postal revenue, were \$24,316,994.05, and the expenditures, exclusive of postal service, \$30,269,389.29, a deficit of \$5,952,395.24 for the month. In February of this year the receipts, exclusive of postal revenue, were \$24,400,997.38, and expenditures, exclusive of postal service, \$28,796,056.66, a deficit of \$4,395,059.28, or a total deficiency of \$189,061,580.44 for three years and eight months, ending March 1, 1897. Not only are we without a surplus in the treasury, but with an increase in the public debt there has been a corresponding increase in the annual interest charge from \$22,858,883.20 in 1892, the lowest of any year since 1862, to \$29,767,068.00 in 1896, or an increase of \$11,439,416.40.

"It may be urged that even if the revenues of the government had been sufficient to meet all its ordinary expenses during the past three years, the gold reserve would still have been insufficient to meet the demands upon it, and that bonds would necessarily have been issued for its replenishment. Be this as it may, it is clearly manifest, without denying or affirming the correctness of such a conclusion, that the debt would have been increased in the least the amount of the deficiency, and business confidence immeasurably strengthened throughout the country.

REVENUE THE GREAT NEED.

Congress should promptly correct the existing condition. Ample revenues must be supplied, not only for the ordinary expenses of the government, but for the prompt payment of liberal pensions and the liquidation of the principal and interest of the public debt. In raising revenue, duties should be levied upon foreign products as to preserve the home market, so far as possible, to our own producers; to revive and increase manufactures; to revive and encourage agriculture; to increase our domestic and foreign commerce; to aid and develop mining and building, and to render to labor in every field of useful occupation the liberal wages and adequate rewards to which skill and industry are justly entitled. The necessity of the passage of a tariff law which shall provide ample revenue, need not be further urged. The imperative demand of the hour is the prompt enactment of such a measure, and to this object I earnestly recommend that congress shall make every endeavor. Before other business is transacted, let us first provide sufficient revenue to faithfully administer the government without the contracting of further debt, or the continued disturbance of our finances.

"WILLIAM M. KINLEY, Executive Mansion, March 15, 1897."

Dr. Hunter the Nominee.

The republican legislative caucus at Frankfort, Ky., nominated Congressman W. Godfrey Hunter for United States Senator by 38 votes to 15 for Holt, 5 for Lewis, 3 for Bowie and 2 for Verkes. All the candidates joined in supporting Dr. Hunter for election. Lieut. Gov. Worthington ruled that no ballot for senator can be taken until March 23, the second Tuesday after the assembling of the legislature.

Collision in Kentucky.

The northbound Illinois Central St. Louis express collided with a freight train at East Cairo, Ky., killing Fireman Walter Rodgers, colored, and the Operator, Godwin. Bones was injured. He was in the station, which was knocked over into the backwater by the passenger engine. The train left the track.

TERRE TELEGRAMS.

At Danville, Ky., Taylor Stevens and John Hayley were crushed to death by a fall of slate.

A rolling mill at the Dupont powder works, Wilmington, Del., exploded. One man was killed.

PLAN FOR A NEW PARTY.

A Permanent Union of the Forces that Supported Bryan.

An effort is to be made to effect a permanent amalgamation of the factions which were allied in the support of W. J. Bryan. Several conferences have recently been held in Chicago, at which the situation was discussed and a decision reached that some steps should be taken to prevent the threatened disruption of what may be termed the "reform forces."

The April number of "New Occasions," a magazine published in Chicago, voices the sentiment of those who have been in conference an address which calls for the abandonment of the old party lines and a reorganization under the name of the American Party. The editorial proposes a novel method of forming a party platform and organization. It suggests that at noon, July 4, the American people organize by voting precincts all over the United States, each precinct to elect one representative to a Congressional convention to be held a few days later. At the Congressional convention one representative should be chosen as a member of the People's Congress, selected "not for his oratorical ability, but for his capacity to think." This congress of 357 men, with delegates from the territories, should meet at some central point and map out a plan of work.

Copies of this plan have been mailed to national committeemen and leaders of the different organizations, and if the responses are favorable a conference will be held in Chicago at an early date, and a definite plan of action agreed upon.

TERMS OF SILVER REPUBLICANS.

Will Permit the Tariff Bill to Pass if No Attempt is Made to Reorganize the Senate.

Senator Pettigrew, of South Dakota, in an interview said: "The five Silver Republicans, Senators Mantle, Jones of Nevada; Cannon, Teller and myself, will not do anything to delay or hinder the adoption of a protective tariff law. There are a number of Democrats who will be just as considerate. If there is an attempt to reorganize the Senate, we may be in session all summer, and if there is a serious attempt to seat the three new senators that have been appointed, a great breach will be opened and the tariff and everything else may be lost sight of."

"There is also some talk of passing other legislation than tariff and appropriations. It is not my opinion that it is tactically understood that the Senate will not be reorganized; that the new senators by appointment will not be seated, and that there will be no general legislation. In that event the way is clear to an early passage of the tariff law."

PORTS ORDERED BLOCKADED.

Russia Issues Instructions to Close Both Cretan and Greek Cities.

The following semi-official statement was published in Vienna:

Russia instructed the commander of the Russian squadron in Cretan waters to take steps, in conjunction with his colleagues, to blockade the Cretan and Greek ports. Germany and Austria had previously sent similar instructions to their squadrons, and Great Britain and Italy are ready to participate. A Russian decision upon the part of France is awaited with certainty. The Russian government has dispatched a circular note to the six powers proposing that each of them send immediately 2,000 troops to Crete to effectually occupy the island and compel the Greek troops to withdraw. The powers are considering the proposal.

SUPPLIES LANDED AT VOLO.

The Greek Soldiers Destroy Bridges on the Railway.

The reply of the Greek government to the ultimatum of the powers having been delivered to the foreign representatives at Athens, preparations for hostilities between Greece and Turkey, which are apparently inevitable, are being hurried forward with all possible speed. Crown Prince Constantine is about to start for the Greek frontier to assume command of the Greek troops there, and several Greek transports have landed great quantities of war material and large numbers of horses and mules at Volo, Thessaly. It is reported that Greek bands have destroyed a number of bridges on the railway between Monastir, the present headquarters of the Turkish army, and Salonica.

TRAINS DYNAMITED.

Blown Up by Insurgents and Many Spanish Killed.

A dispatch from Havana says: The insurgents have attacked the important town of Guimanes, in the province of Havana, burning 25 houses, ransacking all the stores, and taking \$10,000 from the municipal safe. The Spanish garrison resisted for two hours, but after losing all hopes of reinforcements fortified itself in the church and left the town defenceless. The Spanish losses are reported to be very heavy. Bejueta, another important town of the province, has also been attacked by the Cubans, and with equal success. Two trains have been blown up with dynamite by the insurgents at Facocaco, and on the San Clara line. In both cases many Spanish soldiers were killed.

Killed Them Both.

Stephen Horton, a wealthy farmer, who resides in the little village of Rutland, six miles from Mansfield, Pa., is lying dead in his home, while in another part of the house the remains of his wife. The death of both has been attributed to poison, and the coroner's jury has found that Mrs. Horton administered it to her husband, and then ended her own existence with the remainder of the deadly powder. The Hortons lived quietly, and as far as can be ascertained, were happily and contented in their domestic relations. The only known trouble existing in the family has been the frequent periods of domestic exhibited by Mrs. Horton, and it is thought she accomplished the terrible deed while temporarily deranged.

A Business Myth.

Secretary North, of the National Association of Wood Manufacturers, contributes an article to the "Forum," in which he shows that England's industrial supremacy is a myth, and that she will eventually be outstripped by Germany, as she is now outstripped by the United States. In this connection it is best to quote the exact language of the writer. Says Mr. North: "Machinery is the single item of manufacture in which English exports show an increase during these 20 years. Even in machinery the Germans have lately discovered that they can make a better article than the English, while in the iron and steel industries generally the English no longer dispute German supremacy."

A Terrible Voyage.

The Beaver line steamer Lake Widnapetop, Captain Taylor, 25 days out from St. Johns, N. B., arrived safely at Liverpool. Captain Taylor reports having had a terrible voyage, during which his vessel had such a large quantity of water in her engine room that the passengers had to be called upon to assist in clearing her and in rigging her cargo, which had shifted during the heavy weather. The fires of the Lake Winnipeg were out for a fortnight and 307 head of cattle, 22 horses and 74 sheep had to be thrown overboard owing to the scarcity of drinking water on board and the inability of the engineers to work the condensing apparatus.

FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS CONVENES.

EXTRA SESSION.

The Public Galleries Were Packed and 68 Senators Were in Attendance.

There was an abundance of flowers on the desks of senators when at 12 o'clock Monday Mr. Hobart called the Senate to order. There was an exceptionally full attendance of senators. The public galleries were packed and the reserved galleries were filled. The chaplain's opening prayer invoked divine grace and blessing on the senators and members now about to take up the work of the extraordinary session and on the President and Vice President.

The roll call disclosed the presence of 68 senators. The new senator from Kansas, W. A. Harris, took the oath of office. Mr. McBride, of Oregon, presented the credentials of Henry W. Corbett, appointed by the Governor of Oregon to fill the vacancy caused by the failure to elect a successor to Mr. Mitchell. The governor's certificate was read, and McBride requested that the new senator be sworn in if there be no objection, but Mr. Gray said some unusual circumstances attended the appointment and the credentials should be scrutinized. He moved the credentials be referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, and it prevailed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Hoar and Mr. Cockerell were named a committee to read the President and inform him that Congress was in session and ready to receive any communication from him.

The Senate then at 12:20 took a recess until 2 o'clock.

At twelve o'clock Monday Maj. McDowell, the clerk of the House, rapped for order. Rev. Mr. Gouden, of Michigan, the blind chaplain of the House, then delivered an invocation, appealing to the throne for God's blessing on the work of the new congress and the new administration. The clerk of the House then read the proclamation convening congress, after which the roll of members was called.

Speaker Thomas B. Reed was re-elected, the vote standing: Reed, 129; Bailey, (Democrat, Texas, 114; Bell, (Populist, Colorado), 21, and Newlands, (Silverite, Nevada), 1. At 3 o'clock the session was resumed. Mr. Hoar and Mr. Cockerell reported that they had called on the president. Secretary Prudden of the White House staff thereupon stepped forward, message in hand. It was sent to the desk and the reading immediately began amid the close attention of senators. It took but ten minutes to read the message, and immediately thereafter, on motion of Mr. Allison, the senate adjourned.

TARIFF BILL READY.

Committeemen Hope to Raise \$50,000,000 to \$60,000,000 Additional.

The new tariff bill made public Monday by the ways and means committee, embodies the results of hard work by the members ever since the meeting of the last session of Congress in December. It is intended to raise from \$50,000,000 to \$60,000,000 more revenue under the bill than is provided by existing law under similar business conditions. Duties have been advanced, and the double purpose of protection and revenue. Another important rule which has governed the committee is the substitution of specific duties wherever possible for those based upon value. Such duties have been restored upon nearly all of the chemical schedules, many articles of iron and steel, upon sugar, upon agricultural products, and upon many sundries.

It is in textiles, however, that the greatest care has been taken in transforming ad valorem into specific duties. The cotton schedule was made specific in form, with the exception of some general provisions which the present law was framed. The duty per yard was based upon the number of threads to a yard, thereby permitting an increase of rates upon the finer goods. A similar system of classification is applied in the new tariff to manufactures of flax and silk. Duties upon silk are to be based upon the amount of pure silk contained in a given weight of fabric, the rates being higher according to the proportion of silk without adulteration or admixture is larger.

The duties on woolen goods are at present compound in character, and some of them will have to be left so. The committee has done much figuring, however, with a view to substituting specific rates and has been able to do so in a number of cases. The textile schedules of the bill are not likely to be subjected to great changes in the senate, except perhaps in the case of woolsens, where a bitter contest is raging between wool growers and woolen manufacturers.

The committee endeavored, where it was in accord with their views of protection, to keep below the McKinley rates, and in every case avoided going above them. They have been obliged to disregard this rule in a few cases, but many of the schedules, like iron and steel, where McKinley rates are no longer needed, can be cited as evidence that they have adopted a moderate scheme of duties. They have put back the full McKinley rates on Agricultural products, because they regard as a scientific scheme for the protection and development of American industries and the maintenance of a supporting treasury.

The Republican members for several days have been considering how best they could change the duty on woolsens and pottery from ad valorem to specific, so as to make the bill consistent throughout. At the final meeting specific rates were fixed on some of the principal manufactures of wool. In some cases this change of basis was found not to be practicable, but it was made in every instance wherever possible.

Four Women Drowned.

A Mexican woman named Luz Santos Rodriguez, and her three daughters were drowned at a ranch 20 miles from Brownsville, Tex. One of the girls, while bathing in a lagoon went beyond her depth. The two sisters rushed into the lagoon to save her, and also began to sink. The mother then threw herself into the water to save her children, and was drowned with them.

LAST TICKS.

The senate agreed on the Alaskan boundary treaty without change.

By the falling of a wall in Fez, Morocco, 130 workmen were killed.

William Drury, the millionaire land owner of Kiltubberg, Ill., died on Saturday, aged 87.

It is now reported that Nansen may try to explore the polar regions in his new-fangled flying machine.

On a little Georgia coal road an engine ran into a washout, killing the engineer and fatally wounding the fireman.

The upper house of the Arizona legislature has passed a bill making legislative sessions hereafter to be at ten-year intervals.

Governor Bradley wrote "refused" across the back of the petition and record in the case of Scott Jackson, the murderer of Pearl Bryan.

Two children of William Sturman, LaPorte county, Indiana, were poisoned last week by eating patent pills, and three others are critically ill.

THROUGH A BRIDGE.

A Train in Indiana Dropped Into a Swollen Stream.

A special from Princeton, Ind., says a frightful wreck occurred early Wednesday morning 10 miles north of that place, on the Evansville and Terre Haute railroad. For the past week several small bridges and large sections of track have been washed away, but every precaution has been taken to avoid accident.

In spite of all this, passenger train No. 5 had the track washed out from under her, and the smoking car now lies in the bottom of the river, with every passenger in it lost. The balance of the train is lodged in tree tops, 50 or 75 yards from the track and a conductor, Sears and the fireman are known to be among the lost.

A dispatch from Terre Haute, says: The train which left here at 5:30 this morning went down through a trestle at the approach to the White river bridge, four miles below Vincennes. The reports received here are that of more than 70 passengers, less than 40 were taken out alive.

Nothing can be seen except the smoke stack of the locomotive and the top of the rear Pullman.

Several bodies had been recovered at 10 o'clock including those of the engineer and fireman.

A later report says that five men were killed and two seriously injured, as follows: Killed—Herbert A. Evansville, head janitor in the State House, caught in the smoking car and drowned; Joseph Boleman, of Evansville, locomotive fireman; John Sears, of Terre Haute, conductor; two unknown men.

Injured—Brakeman Jacob Hansen, of Evansville; J. E. Henderson, brother of ex-State Auditor Henderson. Both will recover.

FIGURES ON IMMIGRATION.

For Seven Months Past the Decrease Was Nearly 50,000.

A statement prepared at the Immigration bureau shows that during the six months ended December 31, 1896, the number of immigrants who arrived in this country was 149,808, a decrease, as compared with the same period in 1895 of 42,200. In January last the decrease, as compared with January, 1896, was 3,325, making the total decrease for the seven months 45,525.

This decrease is said to be largely due to the difficulties and uncertainties attending a landing in this country. The many deportations and the strict examinations enforced in this country is stated to have caused a large increase of immigration from Europe to Brazil, Argentine republic and other South American countries, where inducements are offered. An important factor in the large decrease of arrivals in this country is believed to be the proclamation of the Italian minister of the interior warning undesirable classes from embarking for this country and refusing them passport.

FOREIGN NOTES.

Inland Parts of Crete are Beset by Bands of Robbers.

The Mussulman refugees who have been brought to Canea are destitute and on the verge of starvation, and the island is full of bands of robbers who are pillaging the towns in the vicinity.

The Cretan insurgents are bombarding the fortress of Spinalonga. The garrison is still resisting. Several conflicts between Mussulmans and Christians have occurred in the village of Archanes.

A scourge of black vomit is devastating the city of Oaxaca, which makes three epidemics that are now in progress in Mexico. Smallpox is increasing daily, and the grip in the western part of the republic shows no signs of abating. No instance is known of anyone recovering after being attacked. As the plague spot is far from railroads, no danger is apprehended of the disease spreading over the country. Hundreds have died.

A dispatch from Constantinople says that large quantities of Gras rifles and cartridges are being smuggled from Greece into the Turkish island of Chios, off the west coast of Asia Minor, by way of Smyrna, and that they are being sold to the inhabitants of Chios at low prices.

A dispatch received from Yalta, in the Crimea, reports that a sanguinary encounter had taken place there between Russians and Turks. Many shops were demolished. A number of the wounded men have been arrested.

CRUSHED BY FALLING WALLS.

Wind Storm Causes the Death of Two Men and Injures a Third.

A whirlwind visited the town of Mingo Junction, Ohio, Saturday night, doing considerable damage, and was attended with fatal results. The wind was so fierce that it was with difficulty men could keep on their feet at the plant of the Junction Iron and Steel company. A fall occurred shortly before 2 o'clock in the morning, then in another second the wind lifted up the iron roof of the cast house, which collapsed, the tall brick walls, which were held by hog chains, falling in. Few men were at work at the time, but Frank Hobson and Larry Fahey were caught under the falling walls. A force of men were put to work to rescue them, and Fahey was taken out dead. A wife and seven children survive him. He was 50 years old. Frank Hobson, aged 29, and single, was so seriously crushed that he died three hours afterward. John Weikas, a Hungarian, was struck by falling timbers and bricks and badly crushed. He managed to crawl away and it was some time before he was found. He may die.

IN SCIENTIFIC INTEREST.

An Expedition to Search for Light on Man's Development.

Morris K. Jessup, president of the American Museum of Natural History in New York is fitting out an expedition that will be put in charge of Prof. Frank W. Putnam and Dr. Emil Boaz to seek anthropological specimens and information. The North-western coast will be visited first to the north of British Columbia, after which the expedition will proceed along the Alaska seaboard, crossing Bering sea to Asia, work down the Siberian and Chinese coast to the Indian ocean and proceed to Egypt. The expedition will be absent six years and its cost of \$60,000 will be defrayed by Mr. Jessup.

The Battleship Wisconsin.

The keel has been laid at the Union Iron works at San Francisco for the battleship Wisconsin, the contract for which was let by the government six months ago. The Wisconsin is to be one of the same class as the Oregon, which was built in the same city, though larger and more heavily armored. She will be one of three war ships of the same pattern, the other two being the Alabama and the Virginia, which will be constructed in eastern shipyards. The contract price of the Wisconsin is about \$3,000,000.

Steel Rails for Japan.

The first cargo of steel rails from this country for Japan is now being loaded on the British steamer Fortuna, Philadelphia and Reading railway cars were, at Philadelphia, together with a large consignment of locomotives built in this city, and intended for Japan. Three other steamers have been chartered to carry engines and rails from that port to Japan.

CUBA STILL FIGHTING FOR LIBERTY.

CUBANS WIN AGAIN.

More Brilliant Victories Gained Over the Spaniards.

A dispatch to the New York Sun from Havana, says: Reports are received from Manzanillo about another serious engagement near Cauto river, in which General Garcia captured from the Spaniards a large supply of arms and ammunition, and made 100 Spanish soldiers prisoners.

The situation in the province of Santiago de Cuba continues to be favorable for the insurgents, and the Spanish columns have practically abandoned active operations on the field. They escort only the convoys with provisions from open fortified towns to another, carefully avoiding any fight with the Cubans.

Col. Vara Del Rey has reported to General Weyer that it is impossible for the Spanish to move in the province in columns less than 4,000 men strong. The Spanish guerrilla of Guanabana, Matanzas province, has been defeated there by the insurgent forces commanded by Gen. Betancourt. The engagement was very hot and lasted for four hours. The Spanish had 56 killed, and the Cubans 37.

The estate Carmen at Sabanilla has been attacked again by the Cubans, who ransacked the stores and dispersed the garrison.

Gov. Procet, of Matanzas, has sent 80 more prisoners to Havana. They are accused of being Mangos. Two hundred prisoners have been previously reported as forwarded to Havana. They will be sent to the island of Fernando Po.

Senor La Barrera, chief of police at Havana, will embark for Spain soon. Senor Porra, civil governor of the province of Havana, will also go to Spain. Both functionaries are said to be in serious disagreement with Gen. Weyer.

Fonsdeviella is committing new atrocities at Guanabana. Seven prisoners were taken out of the jail and murdered half a mile outside of town. Fonsdeviella boasts of his crimes, and says that the more he is attacked by the Cubans the more of them he will kill in order to prove that he has the confidence of his government.

WHEAT, CORN AND OATS.

Statement of the Amount Now on Hand in the Country.

The crop report of the department of agriculture, based on returns from three independent sets of regular correspondents added to several thousand from mills and elevators and carefully combined and weighed, relates principally to the distribution of principal grains, the stocks and the proportion of merchantable and unmerchantable. All grain in the hands of farmers, including amounts remaining over from previous years, are included in the estimates given.

The corn on hand, as estimated, aggregates 1,164,000,000 bushels, or 50 per cent of the last crop, against 1,072,000,000 in March, 1896. Both the proportion and the quantity in original hands at the date are unprecedented, although closely approached last year and in March, 1890. Correspondents report large stocks in cribs, particularly in the prairie states, awaiting better prices.

The aggregate sold from farms to go beyond county lines is 629,000,000 bushels, or 27.3 per cent of the crop. The proportion merchantable is 1,336,000,000, or 84.5 per cent.

The wheat reserves in farmer's hands amount to 29.6 per cent of the crop or 88,000,000 bushels, against 123,000,000 bushels last March. Of this amount 3 per cent is reported as coming over from previous crops. The proportion of wheat sold inside the county is 61.7 per cent.

Of one side there are 313,000,000 bushels, or 44.2 per cent of the 1897 crop, yet in farmer's hands. Proportion shipped beyond county lines, 27 per cent.

WRECKED BY THE WIND.

The Towboat Hawk Overturned and Her Pilot Drowned.

The towboat Hawk, owned by the McKinley Coal company, was overturned by the high wind on the Ohio river shortly before noon Sunday. William E. Devers, the pilot on watch, was drowned, but the rest of the crew escaped by climbing upon the boat as it turned over. Devers was 50 years old, and resided at Freedom, Pa. He leaves a wife and two children.

The Hawk was returning from Belleaire, O., where she had taken three model barges of iron, and was on her way back to Pittsburg to get the balance of her tow. The boat encountered heavy winds coming up the Ohio, and just as she steamed past Bellevue the wind caught her and turned the boat over as though it were a twig.

THREE LIVES CRUSHED OUT.

Wreck on the Missouri Pacific Caused by Horses.

Five horses on the track dived the north-bound Missouri Pacific passenger train at Wolf Creek, Kan. The engine, baggage car and two coaches were wrecked. The killed are: Engineer Edward Nye, Fireman Lawrence O'Connor, J. Meadow, traveling salesman for Sims grocery company, was badly scalded and had his leg crushed. He died. The injured are: F. F. Baeta, traveling passenger agent for the Santa Fe, cut about the head; H. A. Kemp, express messenger; John Appleton, baggage-master, severely burned; N. M. Austerland, Oklahoma; V. P. Piper, Kansas City.

The engineer and fireman were pinned under the baggage car. The fireman was instantly killed. Nye died ten minutes afterward.

Deaths From Plague.

The total number of cases of bubonic plague in Bombay up to date is 9,032, of which 7,546 proved fatal. In the whole presidency to date there have been 14,856 cases of the plague and 12,204 deaths recorded.

SPARKS FROM THE WIRES.

The University of Cambridge conferred the degree of LL. D., upon Ambassador Bayard.

Among the passengers on the Teutonic from Liverpool from New York, is Mrs. Annie Besant.

The keel for the battleship Wisconsin was laid at the Union Iron Works, San Francisco Thursday.

The relations between Great Britain and the Transvaal are becoming seriously strained.

The blockade on the Northern Pacific, occasioned by snow storms in Dakota, has been broken.

The Monon road was bought in at Indianapolis by the reorganization committee for \$3,000,000.