# ACTION OF CONGRESS.

SENATOR TURPIE SPEAKS AGAINST THE NICARAGUA CANAL BILL.

tional Coins—The Conferees Agree Upon the Intaigration Bill.

Washington, Jin, 20.—The session of the senate was without incident. Mr. Turpieo of Indiana spoke against the Nicaragua canal bill. The reading of the logislative appropriation bill washing the tendence of appropriation bill washing the tendence of appropriation bill washing the tendence of senators interested in the subject.

The old soldiers had a field day in the house. Under a special order the whole day was devoted to the consideration of private pension bills. Of the 900 on the calendar, 52 were disposed of during the calendar, 52 were disposed of during the five hours' session. Among those favorably acted upon were bills to grant pensions to Major General Julius H. Stabel at the rate of \$100 per month, the widow of Major General Ensatus B. Tyler at \$75. Hannah E. Rodzers, the daughter of a Rovolutionary soldier, at \$12, and the widow of the late General Matthew M. Trumbull of lowa at \$100 per month.

Mr. Charles W. Stone of Pennsylvania, for the committee on coinage, reported to the house a resolution requesting the president to invite expressions of opinion from other governments as to the desirability and feasibility of the adoption of international coins to be current in all the countries accepting them and to be especially adapted to invoice purposes.

The Past Week In Congress.

Washinston. Jan. 14.—In the senate

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Washington, Jan. 14.—In the senate sterday most of the time was taken up that a discussion of the Mills resolution of the recognition of Cuban independence, executive session the sonate refused to tify certain provisions in arbitration enties between this country and the trange Free State and the Argentine Rebible submitted by Secretary of State Ol-yy.

public submitted by Secretary of State Olney,
In the house the bill to make imitations
of butter subject to state laws was dismissed without taking final action. A
bill was passed to transfer final jurisdiction of criminal cases (not capital) from
the United States supreme court to the circuit courts of appeals.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—In the senare
the measure known as the free homestead
bill was passed by a vote of 35 to 11. A
resolution was adopted calling for an inquiry by the judiciary committee as to status of the Union and Central Pacific railroad projectics.

In the house the Grout bill, the purpose

is of the Union and Central Pacific railued properties.

In the house the Grout bill, the purpose,
in the house the Grout bill, the purpose,
which is to subject oleomargarine and
her initiation dairy products to the laws
the states into which they are transportlwas passed by a vote of 128 to 98.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—The senate was
to in session yesterday. In the free homedate bill, which came hock to the house
ith senate amendments, was referred to
ecommittee on public lands. A number
inflore bills on the calendar, Including
weral private on public lands. An including
weral private pensions, were passed. Mr.
pencer of Massachusetts introduced a bill
uthorizing this government to make a
nader to Spain of a sum not exceeding
00,000,000 for the purchase of the island
Cuba.

\$200,000,000 for the purchase of the island of Cuba.

Washington, Jan. 19.—In the United States sente Mr. Peffer presented petitions in favor of making congress the final judge of the constitutionality of its own acts. Mr. Chandler introduced a bill to provide for representation at an international monetary conference. The army appropriation bill was passed. The Nicaragua cand bill was taken up, and Mr. Morgan spoke in advocacy of its passage. In executive session the nomination of Secretary Francis was confirmed.

In the house the American Bar association's bill, amending the patent law, was passed. Soveral minor bills were also passed.

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Fian For New York's Defense.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—An interesting plan for increasing the strength of the fortifications in New York harbor is proposed by Representative Fisher of Brook. In. The project is for the reclamation of Romer shoals, a shoal of about 33 acres, a few miles north of Sandy Hook and 14 miles south of Forts Hamilton and Wadsworth. The shoals are only about six feet under water, and Mr. Fisher would have created apon them three revolving turrets, each of which could be armed with two heavy guns. This sort of harbor work has been used by France at several points on her coast and is approved by millery men. Mr. Fisher says that the turrets could be manned by fewer men than are required for the crew of a monitor. The guns would command the main ship channel and Gedneys channel, while the turrets, because of their small size and height, would furnish a very poor target for vessels. Mr. Fisher will introduce a bill authorizing the president to appoint a board of three engineer officers of the army to report upon the practicability of the plan and to make estimates of its cost.

Immigration Bill Agreed To.

Maringrotion Bill Agreed To.

Waringrotion Jan. 20.—The conferees of the two houses on the Immigration bill have reached an agreement. Many of the provisions of both the senate and the house bills were retained, but they were modified so as to make it a very different bill from that which passed either house. The Ledge educational qualification was accepted, but its application was limited to persons between it and 60 years of age. The Corliss amendment adopted by the house and rejected by the senate was restored, but in a very much modified form. As originally agreed to, the amendment made it unlawful to employ any allen in the United States. As changed, the prohibition is less stringent and is mude to apply only to the employment of allens who habitanally come and go—"birds of passage."

Francis Confirmed.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Secretary Francis' nomination has been confirmed by the senate in executive session. No opposition to confirmation was made, and no vote was taken. Senator Vest stated that he could add nothing to what he had already said and that he had no object in further delaying action upon the nomination. He added that he had not made objection to confirmation in the beginning on any personal ground or because he entertained any but the kindest personal fecilings toward Mr. Francis, but that he had taken his position in opposition to confirmation simply as a marter of duty to the Democratic party, which Mr. Francis, while professing to be a member of that party, had opposed in the late election.

Wolcott Visits Rothschild.

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Loxnox, Jan. 18.—United States Sonaor Edward O. Welcott is the guest of Barn Rothschild at his country sort, Tring
tels, in Herdordschire.



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