

## BRITISH FLEET

### In Sea of Marmora, And Russian Troops Occupy Constantinople War Fever Raging

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The meeting of Conservatives at Carlton club fixed for this afternoon has been adjourned sine die, the intimation having been conveyed to the leaders of the movement that in the present serious situation it is inadvisable to continue an agitation against Lord Derby. Several promoters of the movement state they have now no further reason to complain of Lord Derby as he strongly supported forcing the Dardanelles and protested against the Russian occupation of Constantinople.

MILITARY PREPARATIONS.  
Activity in Woolwich arsenal is daily increasing. New guns of nearly every description and military transport wagons are being rapidly manufactured.

THE FLEET.  
A telegram from Constantinople says the fleet is expected at Princess Island this morning unless compelled to cast anchor at Marmora, in consequence of tempestuous weather. Two iron-clads have been left at Gallipoli to protect the outlet. Four will be stationed at Princess Island. The Flamingo will stay in the Bosphorus to maintain communication between Layard and Admiral Hornby. The Flamingo went to meet the fleet with sealed orders. No salute is to be fired or formal notices taken of the arrival of the fleet.

The English consul at Chank Kalese made demand for free entry for 3,000 tons of coal for the fleet.

TURKISH PARLIAMENT DISSOLVED.  
The Turkish parliament was dissolved today by an imperial message which declared that the necessities of the situation, that the Sultan appreciates the services of the members, and hopes soon to reconvoke parliament.

RUSSIA'S PROGRAM.  
PARIS, Feb. 14.—A telegram from Vienna states that the Sultan requested Queen Victoria to relinquish her intention of sending the fleet to Constantinople, and strenuously requested the Czar to defer the entry of the Russian troops until Queen Victoria had replied. The Czar, in reply, merely confirmed Prince Gortschakoff's declaration of the 10th to the powers, that the sending of the British fleet to Constantinople obliged Russia to contemplate entering the city. Queen Victoria replied that the fleet entered the Dardanelles with a pacific object.

RUSSIAN MOVEMENTS.  
CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 14.—The Russians will shortly enter the city, but no official notification on the subject has yet been received. Considerable Russian forces have pushed forward to Tehtalua.

FLEET IN SIGHT.  
PERA, Feb. 15, 2 p. m.—The British fleet is in sight off St. Famos.

SITUATION IN GREECE.  
A dispatch from Athens says the French and English representatives are informed by the Greek minister of foreign affairs that the Porte had complained that Greece continued to foment an insurrection in Turkey. The minister replied that the government was unable to control individuals and appealed to the powers to fulfil their promise to protect the lives of Christians in Crete and Hellenic provinces of Turkey.

RUSSIA APPROACHING GALLI POLI.  
LONDON, Feb. 15.—A special from Constantinople reports that since Tuesday the Russians have renewed their advance towards Gallipoli, and are now within a few hours' march of that place.

A Berlin special says it is expected Prince Bismarck will make a statement on the Eastern question next Tuesday. The same correspondent says that Germany has remonstrated ineffectually at St. Petersburg in regard to the threatened infringement of Austrian interests.

GERMAN COUNSELS.  
A correspondent at Pera says it is hoped that as the British fleet will stop short at Princess Islands, the Russians will not occupy Constantinople.

A Vienna correspondent hints that the Russians may content themselves with a modification of the line of demarcation which would bring them nearer to the Bosphorus and Dardanelles and might allow them to occupy the forts situated thereon. It is believed that if Russia takes this course it will be in consequence of the moderating counsels of Germany.

DERBY'S NOTE.  
The Daily News professes to give a summary of Lord Derby's dispatch to St. Petersburg relative to the threatened occupation of Constantinople by the Russians, which was referred to by Sir Stafford Northcote, yesterday, in the House of Commons, as protesting against the view taken by Russia. The dispatch is couched in moderate language. Lord Derby says he is gratified that the Russians have no hostile designs in the advance on Constantinople, and that their object is to protect Christians. He points out, however, that the Russian army has recently been engaged in hostilities, while the British fleet is that of a friendly nation. Lord Derby alone fears the entrance of the Russian army would produce great excitement in Constantinople.

FIGHTING IN THRASIA.  
An Athens dispatch says the news from Thessaly is grave. There has been fighting near the frontier. The Greek corps of observation is almost sure to be drawn into the struggle.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The Times says Russia has incurred grave and needless responsibility and she will have to give guarantees to Austria as well as to England that she will quit Constantinople, if she should fulfill her rash intention to occupy it with her troops.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY EXCITED.  
A Vienna correspondent says: The excitement here is daily increasing at the turn Eastern affairs is taking, and the excitement in Hungary is even greater.

A Perth correspondent says: The situation is regarded as a very critical one. The Emperor has sent for the Archduke Albrecht, Field Marshal, for the purpose of concerting important military measures. Government organs maintain that Russia has broken her word, and that Austro-Hungary will be compelled to march to war with England, in order to force Russia to be faithful to her promises and return to her former programme.

Another dispatch says: While the Hungarian papers are warlike, the Austrian independent press demand peace. Count Andrassy's prolonged interview with the Emperor yesterday and the sudden summons to the Archduke Albrecht have given rise to endless surmises as to the decisions pending. Count Andrassy was closeted for several hours with the Minister of Finance.

The following telegram from Count Andrassy's organ, the Pesther Lloyd, this morning: The non-occupation of Constantinople is the foremost and most weighty interest of Europe, and if Russia understands by resigning her freedom of action that she has a right to hoist the Czar's flag of victory over the Bosphorus, then it is time for the powers to abandon their different categories of neutrality and an end must be put to the policy of the accomplished fact. The occupation of Bulgaria and the exaggerated extension it is proposed to give that province will never be tolerated by Austria. Action and energetic action alone can now save Europe.

YERGEN, Feb. 14.—It appears certain that in view of possible contingencies the great military council of the empire will meet shortly. Meanwhile negotiations are proceeding between Austria and Russia, and it is hoped the latter will take into account Austria's objections to the peace basis.

TORPEDOES.  
MALTA, Feb. 14.—A cargo of torpedoes has arrived and more are coming. The turret ship Devastation leaves to-day, and will take any available superannuated torpedoes, strengthening the crews of the ships under Vice Admiral Hornby.

GOOD ADVICE.  
PARIS, Feb. 14.—The République Française counsels England to remain tranquil. The Journal des Debats declares it is too late for England to act. A majority of ten papers hold similar language, and hope for wisdom and moderation of the powers will prevent further complications.

THE BRITISH FLEET.  
CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 14.—The British fleet passed through the Dardanelles at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The Turkish government has received a report of the fleet meets the necessities of the situation. The Russians still declare they will enter the city, and fears of a considerable disturbance should they do so are now entertained. The destination of the fleet is said to be the Princess Islands in the Sea of Marmora, a dozen miles south of Constantinople, which, it is reported, England intends to occupy.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—A St. Petersburg dispatch says, the government has information that the British fleet has arrived at Constantinople. The admiral has received a telegram that the fleet passed through the Dardanelles, but has no advice of its arrival at Constantinople. The admiral's telegram from the English Consul at Chank Kalese, on the Dardanelles, contains a report of the passage of six ships of the British fleet up the straits yesterday. The Turkish Pasha made formal protest at Chank Kalese but no measures were taken to prevent the passage. The admiral's orders were to enter the straits with or without a previous arrangement to secure the rear. The ships were prepared for action.

GERMANY FOR MEDIATOR.  
ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 14.—Several newspapers call attention to the statement made last year by Bismarck, that Germany would lend efforts in the Eastern question for maintenance of general peace. They say Germany is all the more entitled to assume the part of arbitrator, as by her military preponderance and her disinterestedness in the Eastern question she is the only power capable of effectively discharging such a mission by declaring herself against the power who should fire the first cannon.

ONLY AMBASSADORS.  
BRUSSELS, Feb. 14.—The Nord, organ here of the Russian government, this evening publishes a letter from St. Petersburg, announcing that Prince Bismarck does not regard a congress of the powers. The conference will be composed of simple ordinary ambassadors.

SERVIA'S DISSATISFACTION.  
BELGRADE, Feb. 14.—Great dissatisfaction is felt in Serbia at the uncertain terms offered by Russia to the principality. M. Bisties will leave Nisch to-day for Adrianople, to give more distinct explanations from the Grand Duke Nicholas regarding the new Serbian frontier.

ENGLISH PRESS OPINIONS.  
LONDON, Feb. 14.—The Manchester Guardian's correspondent says: "The changed circumstances of the Eastern question are passing beyond Lord Derby's pacific inclinations. Should he remain in office we may regard it as a foregone conclusion that he will not be able to maintain the peace, though it may be carried at the cost of concessions. If he retires we may count upon serious complications.

The leading editorial of the Daily News says: "The difficulties of the hour are no doubt great, and it is a mere vain hope to deeply interested as the Emperor of Germany in maintenance of peace, in the pressing conviction that that object will be gained, we may hope they will be surmounted."

The Post says: "The peace party, at any price, will be gratified to learn that Lord Derby has suddenly become quite bellicose, a pretty sure sign that there is no risk of any collision. On the contrary, as matters stand, if the ships are only ordered to Constantinople there is no reason why Britons and Russians should not take part in the games of the reassured residents. If from Constantinople we are still able to proceed to meet into the Euxine sea, we occupy a position of some power. We shall anxiously wait to learn from official declaration whether this be so—if the fleet is merely to remain at the entrance of the Bosphorus, while the victorious forces of the Czar stand at the gates of the city, the latter will assuredly, throughout the whole eastern world, more than counterbalance the effect of our pacific appearance at Seraglio's Point."

MISCELLANEOUS.  
A Constantinople despatch says the Sultan does not intend to go to Brussa if the Russians enter the city.

Layard has sent a telegram to Lord Derby stating that the Czar has telegraphed he will not enter Rastchuk on Tuesday next, as the British fleet enters even if the object of the fleet is protection of Christians. The Porte has telegraphed the necessary orders for the evacuation of Rastchuk.

A Bucharest special says the Russians will enter Rastchuk on Tuesday next, as the British fleet enters even if the object of the fleet is protection of Christians. The Porte has telegraphed the necessary orders for the evacuation of Rastchuk.

A London dispatch says: It is officially stated that James Lawler will be appointed chief secretary for Ireland in place of Sir Michael Hicks Beach.

The explanation does but add to the dis-

## WASHINGTON.

### WORK OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS.

Senate Declares It Inexpedient to Reduce The Tax on Spirits—Senator Jones Seizes the Money Market and His Organ—Speaker Randall Rates that Sherman Can Write a Letter to the House if He Wants to—Earnest Defense of Louisiana by Mr. Gibson—House Committee Again Pronounces in Favor of Reducing the Army.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—After a brief discussion, the House joint resolution declaring that a reduction of the tax on distilled spirits is inexpedient, passed, yeas 40, nays 9. Senators Bailey, Conover, Davis, of West Virginia, Dennis, McCrary, Merriman, Morgan, Randolph and Ransom voted in the negative.

Senator Cameron, of Pennsylvania, presented resolutions of the Pittsburgh chamber of commerce remonstrating against the passage of a law imposing a tax on incomes. Referred.

Senator Ferry called up the Senate bill to regulate the compensation of postmasters. Pending the discussion the morning hour expired, and consideration was resumed of the silver bill, and Senator Jones of Nevada spoke in favor thereof.

He spoke at great length, most of his speech being devoted to an argument showing that silver had not depreciated in value since its demonetization, and against the assertions that the dollar proposed by the bill is dishonoring the medium of payment and a depreciated coin. He said that silver since 1873, although it has been reduced to its military function, denied mintage throughout the entire western world, and degraded to the rank of a commodity, instead of having become less valuable, has nevertheless increased, and that both gold and silver have gained in purchasing power, and that silver only seems to have fallen in value because it has not risen to so great an extent as gold. In the face of these patent and accumulated facts, it is still claimed that silver has depreciated, and that it should be dishonored by pay debts in it. He would legally discharge them.

Mr. Jones denounced as false the charges that he has an individual interest to be served by remonetizing silver, and in conclusion said: Leaving personal matters aside, I will conclude with a brief reference to the frantic appeal that comes to us from certain quarters to rally to the rescue of the ancient honor of the republic, which it is declared is now at stake by less than a dozen States in the Union. It is claimed that this nation will lose its high position which it has maintained for 100 years in the family of nations, if the pending bill shall pass. It is said that even discussion of a measure to reconvert the silver into gold, would be an insult to its contracts in the terms in which they are written, has to no inconsiderable extent disparaged in the eyes of the world.

When comes the really dangerous assault on the good name of the nation, it is not from certain members of Congress, who do us no harm as a picked party, but as a scheme to issue clipped coins, forgetting that the clippings were stolen from the pockets of the people and are now found in the press, in the leading metropolitan and country papers, which denounces supporters of the bill as swindlers and reprobates, and declares itself to have the honor of this nation in its special charge. By what title does any portion of the people of this country, who are the guardians of the honor of the country? That honor can repose nowhere so securely as in the keeping and hearts of the people. There is its shrine and there alone can it find protection. In what manner and by what methods has the honor of the nation been maintained the honor of the nation, which it proclaims itself the special guardian. Only by libels on the character and personal motives of every public man who cannot sell their votes and their consciences to the country, and by ennobling the government and people by enhancing the value of the money in which debts are to be paid by open and shameless appeals to the President to make a corrupt use of his patronage to influence votes in Congress against the silver bill, by a pretense of false as it is, that the nation, that Congress do not resist the decrees of organized capital.

He then quoted from the New York Tribune of January 7th, as follows: "The President knows that men can be held as true to Republican pledges as they are to know that their truth will mean favor as to appointments."

Three days later the same paper said, "the capital of the country is organized at last, and we shall see whether Congress will dare fly in its face."

These newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe. What impression of our people and our public affairs, and public men, is America's newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe. What impression of our people and our public affairs, and public men, is America's newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe. What impression of our people and our public affairs, and public men, is America's newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe.

He then quoted from the New York Tribune of January 7th, as follows: "The President knows that men can be held as true to Republican pledges as they are to know that their truth will mean favor as to appointments."

Three days later the same paper said, "the capital of the country is organized at last, and we shall see whether Congress will dare fly in its face."

These newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe. What impression of our people and our public affairs, and public men, is America's newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe. What impression of our people and our public affairs, and public men, is America's newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe.

He then quoted from the New York Tribune of January 7th, as follows: "The President knows that men can be held as true to Republican pledges as they are to know that their truth will mean favor as to appointments."

Three days later the same paper said, "the capital of the country is organized at last, and we shall see whether Congress will dare fly in its face."

These newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe. What impression of our people and our public affairs, and public men, is America's newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe. What impression of our people and our public affairs, and public men, is America's newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe.

He then quoted from the New York Tribune of January 7th, as follows: "The President knows that men can be held as true to Republican pledges as they are to know that their truth will mean favor as to appointments."

Three days later the same paper said, "the capital of the country is organized at last, and we shall see whether Congress will dare fly in its face."

These newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe. What impression of our people and our public affairs, and public men, is America's newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe. What impression of our people and our public affairs, and public men, is America's newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe.

He then quoted from the New York Tribune of January 7th, as follows: "The President knows that men can be held as true to Republican pledges as they are to know that their truth will mean favor as to appointments."

Three days later the same paper said, "the capital of the country is organized at last, and we shall see whether Congress will dare fly in its face."

These newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe. What impression of our people and our public affairs, and public men, is America's newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe. What impression of our people and our public affairs, and public men, is America's newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe.

He then quoted from the New York Tribune of January 7th, as follows: "The President knows that men can be held as true to Republican pledges as they are to know that their truth will mean favor as to appointments."

Three days later the same paper said, "the capital of the country is organized at last, and we shall see whether Congress will dare fly in its face."

These newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe. What impression of our people and our public affairs, and public men, is America's newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe. What impression of our people and our public affairs, and public men, is America's newspapers claim to be read largely in Europe.

He then quoted from the New York Tribune of January 7th, as follows: "The President knows that men can be held as true to Republican pledges as they are to know that their truth will mean favor as to appointments."

Three days later the same paper said, "the capital of the country is organized at last, and we shall see whether Congress will dare fly in its face."

grounds the House could claim a reversionary power over the local tribunals of Louisiana. For years the national government has been in league with the vicious elements of society in Louisiana, and its institutions had been well-nigh undermined. No guilty man had been punished since the Nicholls government had been inaugurated. The House refused to extend shelter to criminals. If it were shown that there was any merit in the case of Anderson, if it should seem that there had been any bias against him, or that there had been any degree of vicious public sentiment underlying the transaction—may mors, if the Republican leaders in the House, or out of it, should intervene and ask that the executive clemency be extended, he believed that the gallant, patriotic, and magnanimous Governor Louisiana would exceed their wishes, for one, he Gibson, would not find fault with him. He had entered public life with a view of bringing about a good understanding between the North and South, and he was glad to perceive that Northern and Southern men had met in Congress, this feeling had arisen, and kindlier feelings had prevailed.

Mr. Hale rose to reply, but was met with a cry of "regular order," from the Democratic side. Mr. Thompson—Then don't talk about reconciliation.

Mr. Hale then moved to adjourn, but withdrew his motion at the request of the Speaker.

The Speaker asked consent to lay before the House a communication from the secretary of the treasury, which he said was a more important matter for discussion than that which the House was pursuing, as it was in regard to the appropriations for the finances of the country, irrespective of politics or partisanship.

Consent being given, the Speaker laid before the House a communication from the secretary of the treasury, enclosing a copy of a letter to him from the committee on Internal Revenue, setting out that the internal revenue receipts for the current fiscal year, including yesterday, as compared with same period of last fiscal year, have suffered a decrease of \$4,969,218, and suggesting the agitation for reduction of the tax on spirits and tobacco.

The Secretary urged upon Congress, in anticipation of the same, that the decrease continuing during the next fiscal year, the reduction of the passage of a resolution in regard to tobacco, similar to that passed some time ago in regard to the tax on distilled spirits, declaring a reduction of the tax on that article inexpedient.

Mr. Wood, of New York, in moving to refer the communication to the committee on appropriations, said that it was an error to assume that the incidental circumstances which had caused the falling off in revenues were of a character that entitled them to any great consideration at the other end of the revenue. If it had been assumed by the secretary of the treasury that Congress had no right to alter existing laws, however vicious they might be, the revenue might fall off, he (Wood) would not hesitate to assume that Congress had charged an important committee with entire revision of the question of taxes, and if in consequence of the agitation incidental to delay in preparation of the bill, the revenues had fallen off, he attached no importance to the fact. But if the treasury department assumed to dictate to Congress what it should do in regard to whisky or tobacco or any other subject of taxation, he thought it went a little beyond the legitimate executive prerogative, beyond what he considered the duty of the secretary, however that the expenditures of the government should be curtailed.

Mr. Butler thought the House should not quarrel with the secretary of the treasury in regard to the question of taxes. But if the treasury department assumed to dictate to Congress what it should do in regard to whisky or tobacco or any other subject of taxation, he thought it went a little beyond the legitimate executive prerogative, beyond what he considered the duty of the secretary, however that the expenditures of the government should be curtailed.

Mr. Wood accepted the amendment to send the communication to the committee on ways and means.

Mr. Harrison stated that the constitution gave to the President the right to communicate to Congress his views on proper legislation, and that the law gave to the secretary of the treasury the right to communicate to Congress information when he was asked for it, but that the committee on appropriations had no right to comment on its action, and until he was asked the House should receive no suggestion from him. He (Harrison) thought no reference should be given to the communication. If the secretary deemed it right to communicate with the House, he should do so. The President said it in. The House should not allow any dictation of that sort from the secretary of the treasury, and he therefore, moved to lay the communication on the table.

At this point, amid much laughter, a message was received from the Senate, stating that that body had passed the House's resolution declaring a reduction of the tax on whisky to be inexpedient.

Mr. Wood moved to yield to the motion to lay on the table.

Mr. Harrison made a point of order that the secretary of the treasury had no right to send such a communication to the House.

The speaker decided that in the first place the point of order came too late, but in the second place, that under the law the point was not well taken. The law made it the duty of the secretary of the treasury to make reports, and to give information to either House when he is required to do so, or that he should report to the committee on ways and means, and from his colleague (Swoley) that the committee did not consider the whisky tax question settled.

Mr. Wood (N. Y.)—So far as I am concerned the gentleman has not understood me correctly.

Mr. Wood—The House has by a majority of 35, and the Senate by a vote of 40 to 9 declared the reduction of the whisky tax inexpedient. That question is settled, and I regret that it should be given out publicly that the question is not settled. As to the tobacco question I beg the committee on ways and means to bring in a bill settling it definitely. The secretary of the treasury was his duty, has presented to us this morning a communication showing that the interest now why the tobacco and whisky and tobacco is reducing the revenues very greatly. I think therefore, that the commission on ways and means should present the question to the House at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Wood—The House has by a majority of 35, and the Senate by a vote of 40 to 9 declared the reduction of the whisky tax inexpedient. That question is settled, and I regret that it should be given out publicly that the question is not settled. As to the tobacco question I beg the committee on ways and means to bring in a bill settling it definitely. The secretary of the treasury was his duty, has presented to us this morning a communication showing that the interest now why the tobacco and whisky and tobacco is reducing the revenues very greatly. I think therefore, that the commission on ways and means should present the question to the House at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Wood—The House has by a majority of 35, and the Senate by a vote of 40 to 9 declared the reduction of the whisky tax inexpedient. That question is settled, and I regret that it should be given out publicly that the question is not settled. As to the tobacco question I beg the committee on ways and means to bring in a bill settling it definitely. The secretary of the treasury was his duty, has presented to us this morning a communication showing that the interest now why the tobacco and whisky and tobacco is reducing the revenues very greatly. I think therefore, that the commission on ways and means should present the question to the House at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Wood—The House has by a majority of 35, and the Senate by a vote of 40 to 9 declared the reduction of the whisky tax inexpedient. That question is settled, and I regret that it should be given out publicly that the question is not settled. As to the tobacco question I beg the committee on ways and means to bring in a bill settling it definitely. The secretary of the treasury was his duty, has presented to us this morning a communication showing that the interest now why the tobacco and whisky and tobacco is reducing the revenues very greatly. I think therefore, that the commission on ways and means should present the question to the House at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Wood—The House has by a majority of 35, and the Senate by a vote of 40 to 9 declared the reduction of the whisky tax inexpedient. That question is settled, and I regret that it should be given out publicly that the question is not settled. As to the tobacco question I beg the committee on ways and means to bring in a bill settling it definitely. The secretary of the treasury was his duty, has presented to us this morning a communication showing that the interest now why the tobacco and whisky and tobacco is reducing the revenues very greatly. I think therefore, that the commission on ways and means should present the question to the House at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Wood—The House has by a majority of 35, and the Senate by a vote of 40 to 9 declared the reduction of the whisky tax inexpedient. That question is settled, and I regret that it should be given out publicly that the question is not settled. As to the tobacco question I beg the committee on ways and means to bring in a bill settling it definitely. The secretary of the treasury was his duty, has presented to us this morning a communication showing that the interest now why the tobacco and whisky and tobacco is reducing the revenues very greatly. I think therefore, that the commission on ways and means should present the question to the House at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Wood—The House has by a majority of 35, and the Senate by a vote of 40 to 9 declared the reduction of the whisky tax inexpedient. That question is settled, and I regret that it should be given out publicly that the question is not settled. As to the tobacco question I beg the committee on ways and means to bring in a bill settling it definitely. The secretary of the treasury was his duty, has presented to us this morning a communication showing that the interest now why the tobacco and whisky and tobacco is reducing the revenues very greatly. I think therefore, that the commission on ways and means should present the question to the House at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Wood—The House has by a majority of 35, and the Senate by a vote of 40 to 9 declared the reduction of the whisky tax inexpedient. That question is settled, and I regret that it should be given out publicly that the question is not settled. As to the tobacco question I beg the committee on ways and means to bring in a bill settling it definitely. The secretary of the treasury was his duty, has presented to us this morning a communication showing that the interest now why the tobacco and whisky and tobacco is reducing the revenues very greatly. I think therefore, that the commission on ways and means should present the question to the House at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Wood—The House has by a majority of 35, and the Senate by a vote of 40 to 9 declared the reduction of the whisky tax inexpedient. That question is settled, and I regret that it should be given out publicly that the question is not settled. As to the tobacco question I beg the committee on ways and means to bring in a bill settling it definitely. The secretary of the treasury was his duty, has presented to us this morning a communication showing that the interest now why the tobacco and whisky and tobacco is reducing the revenues very greatly. I think therefore, that the commission on ways and means should present the question to the House at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Wood—The House has by a majority of 35, and the Senate by a vote of 40 to 9 declared the reduction of the whisky tax inexpedient. That question is settled, and I regret that it should be given out publicly that the question is not settled. As to the tobacco question I beg the committee on ways and means to bring in a bill settling it definitely. The secretary of the treasury was his duty, has presented to us this morning a communication showing that the interest now why the tobacco and whisky and tobacco is reducing the revenues very greatly. I think therefore, that the commission on ways and means should present the question to the House at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Wood—The House has by a majority of 35, and the Senate by a vote of 40 to 9 declared the reduction of the whisky tax inexpedient. That question is settled, and I regret that it should be given out publicly that the question is not settled. As to the tobacco question I beg the committee on ways and means to bring in a bill settling it definitely. The secretary of the treasury was his duty, has presented to us this morning a communication showing that the interest now why the tobacco and whisky and tobacco is reducing the revenues very greatly. I think therefore, that the commission on ways and means should present the question to the House at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Wood—The House has by a majority of 35, and the Senate by a vote of 40 to 9 declared the reduction of the whisky tax inexpedient. That question is settled, and I regret that it should be given out publicly that the question is not settled. As to the tobacco question I beg the committee on ways and means to bring in a bill settling it definitely. The secretary of the treasury was his duty, has presented to us this morning a communication showing that the interest now why the tobacco and whisky and tobacco is reducing the revenues very greatly. I think therefore, that the commission on ways and means should present the question to the House at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Wood—The House has by a majority of 35, and the Senate by a vote of 40 to 9 declared the reduction of the whisky tax inexpedient. That question is settled, and I regret that it should be given out publicly that the question is not settled. As to the tobacco question I beg the committee on ways and means to bring in a bill settling it definitely. The secretary of the treasury was his duty, has presented to us this morning a communication showing that the interest now why the tobacco and whisky and tobacco is reducing the revenues very greatly. I think therefore, that the commission on ways and means should present the question to the House at the earliest possible moment.

Let the question be decided. As to the secretary of the treasury, I want to say to him, inasmuch as he has been attacked, that I do not believe that this country has ever had so able an administrative officer in the treasury department as it has to-day.

Mr. Saylor—Will my colleague except Alexander Hamilton?

Mr. Foster—He is as anxious to reduce expenses as any man in the House or the country can be. He urges that at all times, and under all circumstances, in our committee. He sees the revenue falling off, and he calls our attention to that fact, as it was his duty to do.

Mr. Wood, of New York—No man in this House is more responsible for the delay in settling the question of taxation than the gentleman from Ohio (Foster). The resolution which he brought before the House on the subject of the whisky tax disturbs an arrangement a report covering the question, almost ready to be made to the House by the committee on ways and means. The delay is traceable to that premature and inconsistent action of the gentleman from Ohio, who settled in the committee, and a bill reported to the House.

Mr. Burchard did not believe that the diminution of revenue was the result of the tax on distilled spirits as settled. The tax was simply deferred, but the uncertainty was affecting trade and business. He hoped the committee on ways and means would, at an early day, make a report. For one, he considered the question of a reduction of the tax on distilled spirits as settled, and he had been settled by the House and by the Senate, so far as an expression of opinion is concerned, and he did not think that anybody would dare to reopen it.

Mr. Harrison appealed to Mr. Wood, out of regard for the dignity of the House, to move to lay the secretary's communication on the table.

The speaker said he had in support of his position the fact that it had been the uniform practice of the House to receive communications from the secretary of the treasury touching affairs of his department. In addition to that he thought it good policy that if the revenues of the government fell off suddenly and seriously from any cause the secretary of the treasury should communicate the fact to the House.

Mr. Harrison—Through the President. The speaker—For the reason that it might involve the good faith and credit of the country, the clerk is at a loss as to where better information can be obtained on that subject than from the treasury itself; furthermore, such communications should certainly come to this House, which has the sole power of originating revenue measures. Mr. Whitthorne trusted that the president would not be asked. The secretary of the treasury, or any subordinate officer, should never be permitted to come before the House with an electronic document, and the president's official position, one could tell to what the practice would grow.

Mr. Garfield suggesting satirically that the right of petition should be taken recognized in the secretary of the treasury. Mr. Stephens said, upon the official position of the secretary had a right, as a private citizen, feeling an interest in any public question, to present it to Congress. The secretary's official position added to that duty on his part.

After further discussion the communication was referred.

The House proceeded to act on the military academy bill. All the amendments reported from the committee of the whole on the state of the Union, Mr. Swoley's resolution, which took up the bill of granting pensions to soldiers and sailors of the Mexican and other wars. The bill directs the secretary of the interior to place on the pension rolls the names of the surviving officers and enlisted men, and to make the official position of the military and naval service, who served six days in the Mexican war, or thirty days in the Creek war, or Seminole war, or Blackhawk war, or to their surviving widows who have no other means of support.

Mr. Herbert addressed the committee in advocacy of the bill.

Mr. Powers spoke in opposition to it, because it opened wide a new door by which millions of dollars would be drawn from the treasury. The committee estimated that an undue drain under the bill as \$1,500,000, he believed that it would be \$7,500,000, to say nothing of arrears. The whole outlay under it would not fall short of one hundred millions of dollars.

At the close of Mr. Powers' speech the committee rose.

Mr. Carlisle introduced a bill to prescribe a time for the payment of the tax on distilled spirits. Referred.

Adjourned.

Miscellaneous.  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—The Senate confirmed Darius S. Hall, register at the land office at Benson, Minn., and Postmaster C. F. Lecompte, at Allerton, Iowa; A. W. Howard, Yancton, Dakota.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—At a meeting of the House committee on military affairs today Mr. McCook offered the following resolution, which was rejected by a large majority: "Resolved, That in view of the condition of affairs on the Mexican frontier and the danger of an outbreak of hostilities, any measure looking toward a reduction of the effective force of the army is not justified by the condition of the country, and is unsafe and unwise."

The Senate committee on post offices and post roads today agreed to propose further consideration of the nomination of Alex. Reed to