NEW PUBLICATIONS.

CONGRESSIONAL GOVERNMENT. A Study in American Politics. By WOODROW WILSON, Fellow in History, Johns Hopkins University. 16mo. pp. vii., 333. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

Mr. Wilson's object in publishing this essay is to show that our Constitution has proved a failure, that the ideal system of checks and balances about which we hear so much exists only on paper, that the English, or Parliamentary, plan is a great deal better than ours, and that, further changes in the spirit of our institutions being inevitable, we ought promptly to apply with the unhesitating courage of conviction all thoroughly tested or well-considered expedients necessary to make self-government among us a straightforward thing of simple method, single unstinted power, and clear responsibility." He maintains that Congress has steadily encroached, and is still encroaching, upon both the co-ordinate branches, the executive and the judiciary, while the federal authority has practically subjugated the States; yet that increase of power has been accompanied by diminishing responsibility, so that Congress is at once meddlesome and inefficient, an obstacle to the carrying out of any positive policy, either the Executive's or its own. The government cannot be said to follow intelligible lines of action when the legislative and administrative departments are inharmonious, as so often is the case; nor is there even any policy or accountability in Congress itself, because business is so conducted there that legislation is not controlled by the majority, but proceeds generally by a series of compromises. This brings us to the most important and most interesting part of the book, a description of the system of law-making by committees. The business of the House of Representatives is distributed among forty-seven standing committees, and the operation of the rules is such that the forty-seven chairmen have practical control of all bills. Legislation is thus shifted from the floor of the House to the privacy of the committee-rooms; party responsibility is taken away by the representation of both parties on every committee; and party vigor is made impossible by the lack of concert among the forty-seven chairmen, each of whom is in fact anxious to promote his own bills at the cost of all others. The anomalies and defects of this curious system have been pointed out before, and Mr. Wilson has a somewhat familiar theme. He amplifies it, however, with zeal, and with an eye for all its weakest points. Perhaps his description would be more effective if it were less rhetorical.

It is not quite clear what substitute Mr. Wilson would propose for a method which has great merits as well as great imperfections, and which has grown gradually out of a general sense of the public needs. His aim is not to suggest a remedy, but to demonstrate the disease. His preferences, nevertheless, are obviously for some such approach toward the English system as would make the majority party in Congress absolute in its control of all legislation and also of the administration of the laws. The majority would then be responsible for the entire conduct of the government, and the President and his Cabinet would hold office only at their will. Mr. Wilson apparently does not see that his plan would mean the complete obliteration of the federal principle, which is the characteristic note of the American system, and the principle which has been most signally vindicated by our century of successful experiment. It would mean also of course the obliteration of the Senate as well as of the States; and how the inconvenient necessity of dividing and distributing the onerous business of the House of Representatives would be removed by increasing the mass and variety of that business, we fail to see. It is hardly worth while, however, to enter upon a defence of a system of government which almost every competent political student knows to be the only system which could hold this country together. Mr. Wilson starts with the assumption that there has recently been a change in the general feeling toward the Constitution, and that "our generation" has "serious doubts about the superiority of our own institutions as compared with the systems of Europe." This is quite wrong. Our generation has no such absurd feeling. And Mr. Wilson is also grossly deceived in imagining that the Constitution, with its balance of powers, has been changed from the original pattern. It is a wonder to us that any man can read the history of the last twenty-five years without perceiving that the constitutional "checks and balances" are as effectual to-day as they ever were, that the form of our government has developed only in the line of growth marked out for it from the beginning, and that the boundaries of federal and State authority, instead of becoming confused, are steadily getting more and more distinct—the judiciary (which Mr. Wilson thinks that Congress has subjugated) having especially vindicated its independence and its superiority to party prejudice by overturning a whole series of enactments passed during the reconstruction period in forgetfulness of those limits of jurisdiction. The fact is that Mr. Wilson is so careless and contradictory in his statements and so hasty and short-sighted in his conclusions that to answer him in detail would take more time and room than we can afford for such an easy but unnecessary enterprise.

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THE MARKETS.

TOTAL RECEIPTS OF PRODUCE.

Per North River, Vessels and Railroads.

NEW-YORK, March 19, 1885.

Asnes, pkgs.	3	Peas, bush..	3,498	Peanuts, bgs	505
Beans, bbls.	493	Oatmeal, pkg.	150	Pork, pkgs...	694
Cotton, bales	405	Flaxseed, bu.	200	Cutmeats, pks	2,069
Cot'nseed oil, bbls.....	50	Grease, pkgs	79	Lard, tcs.....	861
Copper, bbls.	162	Grass seed, bags.....	5	Lard, kegs...	200
D fruit, pkg.	500	Hemp, bales.	98	Butter, pkgs	3,391
Eggs, pkgs..	6,529	Hides, No....	32	Cheese, pkgs	1,960
Flour, bbls...	22,352	Hides, sides	118	Spelter, pcs..	2,418
Meal, bbls.	320	Hops, bales..	114	Stearine, pkg	50
C Meal, bags.	1,148	Lead, pigs...	2,638	Tallow, pkgs	121
Wheat, bush.	47,750	Leather, sides	14,345	Tea, pkgs...	259
Corn, bush..	2,7,846	Oil, bbls.....	21	Tobacco, hds	4+6
Oats, bush..	89,100	Oilcake, pkgs.	2,501	Tobacco, pkg	222
Rye, bush...	1,810	Oil, land, bbs.	62	Whiskey, bbs	708
Malt, bush...	7,674	Oleo stock pkgs.....	419		
Barley, bush	5,625				

GENERAL MARKET REPORT.

NEW-YORK, March 19, 1885.

COFFEE—Spot Rio quiet at 8¾@8⅞c. for Fair; 800 bags ex "Alfatross" sold on private terms; options dull and 5 points lower; Havre declined ¼f; the Rio receipts increased to 15,000 bags; sales, 9,500 bags, closing at, following: March, 7.15@7.20; April, 7.15@7.20; May, 7.25@7.45; June, 7.40@7.45; July, 7.45@7.50; August, 7.55@7.65; September, 7.60@7.70. Mild grades steady, 7.50@7.60; Sales, 300 bags Mexican and 400 Laguayra on private terms.

COTTON—Spot Cotton quiet, steady and unchanged. Sales of 120 bales; deliveries, 1,000 bales; receipts at the ports to-day, 3,338 bales, against 4,891 last week, and 6,917 last year; since Sept. 1st, 4,492,795 bales, against 4,395,756 for the same period last season.

The quotations, according to the American classification, are as follows:

	Uplands.	New-Orleans and Gulf.	Texas.
Ordinary	9 1/16	9 5/16	9 5/16
Strict Ordinary	9½	9¾	9¾
Good Ordinary	10 5/16	10 9/16	10 9/16
Strict Good Ordinary	10 11/16	10 15/16	10 15/16
Low Middling	11	11¼	11¼
Strict Low Middling	11 5/16	11 7/16	11 7/16
Middling	11 9/16	11 13/16	11 13/16
Good Middling	11¾	11¾	11¾
Strict Good Middling	11 15/16	11 15/16	11 15/16
Middling Fair	12 5/16	12 5/16	12 5/16
Fair	12 11/16	12 15/16	12 15/16

STAINED.

Good Ordinary	8 15/16	Low Middling	10 3/16
Strict Good Ordinary	9 3/16	Middling	10 9/16

Futures quiet. The market opened steady at 4 points advance; quiet during the day, and closing dull but steady at 4 to 6 points advance from yesterday. Bentz was the largest buyer. Sales, 51,100 bales.

Month	To-day's closing.	Extremes. Highest.	Lowest.
March	11.35@11.36	11.36	11.35
April	11.29@11.30	11.31	11.29
May	11.42@11.43	11.44	11.41
June	11.54@11.55	11.55	11.53
July	11.6 2@11.63	11.62	11.61
August	11.69@11.70	11.69	11.68
September	11.28@11.29	11.29	11.29
October	10.79@10.80	10.80	10.77
November	10.63@10.64	10.63	10.63
December	10.63@10.64	10.63	10.62

Market closing dull but steady. Transferable notices, 11.40.

FLOUR AND MEAL—Flour market presents the same features as noticed for several days past. Grades under $3 75 are scarce and firmly held, while grades above are in fair supply and with a limited inquiry; holders are disposed to shade prices in order to realize, while the jobbing trade has been confined mainly to small parcels to fill immediate wants. Sales, 13,500 bbls., of which 7,100 bbls. were for export, including 3,000 bbls. for the British market at $4 5@$4 60; 700 bbls. Fine, at $3 40@$3 60; 1,400 bbls. Extra No. 2 at $3 15@$3 45, mainly $3 15@$3 30; 500 bbls. Superfine at $2 85@$2 95 for Spring, and $2 70@$3 15 for Winter Wheat; 1,500 bbls. Winter Wheat Extra, mainly within the range, $3 15@$4 85. Quotations: Fine, $2 25@$2 90; Superfine, $2 65@$3 15. Extra No. 2, $3 10@$4 25; Good to Fancy Extra State, $3 50@$4 50; Good to Choice Extra Western, $3 85@$5 60; Common to Fair Extra Ohio, $3 10@$3 40; Good to Choice, $4 10@$5 25; Common Extra Minnesota, $3 10@$3 50; Clear, $3 50@$4 10; Rye Mixture, $3 50@$4 00; Straight, $4 25@$4 60; Patent, $4 75@$5 60; Bakers' Extra, $4 00@$4 40; St. Louis Common to Fair Extra, $3 10@$3 75; Fair to Good, $3 80@$4 90; Good to Very Choice, $4 95@$5 25; Patent Winter Wheat Extra $4 25@$5 00; City Mill Extra for West Indies, $6 50@$8 00; South America, $4 65@$5 00, market closing dull.....SOUTHERN FLOUR—Dull; prices unchanged. Sales, 800 bbls. at $3 25@$4 25 for Common to Good Extra, and $4 30@$5 40 for Good to Choice do.....RYE FLOUR—Steady, with a fair demand. Sales, 600 bbls. Superfine at $3 40@$3 85, last for choice.....BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Firmer and very scarce. Sales at $2 25@$2 50.....CORN MEAL—Quiet. Yellow Western, $2 75@$3 20. Brandywine, $3 20@$3 25.

GRAIN—WHEAT—Market a shade better for cash lots and rather quiet. Options opened firmer, then advanced ¾@1¼c. and closed firm at about the best prices. A limited trade for export and City Milling, and a fairly active business in options. Shippers bought 500,000 bush. future, 98,000 bush. spot, including 64 Canada at 92c. in bond; Ungraded Winter Red at 88@90c., mainly at 88@90½c.; No. 3 Red, 85c. in elevator, 85½c. afloat; No. 2 Red, 90c. delivered; 90½c. for Red certificates in elevator; No. 1 Red, 91½c.; No. 1 Hard Duluth nominal at 97@98c.; No. 2 Red for April, 88¼@88c., closing at 88c.; do. for May, 87⅞@88⅛c., closing at 88c.; do. for June, 91¼@91⅝c., closing at 92c.; do. for July, 92¼@92½c., closing at 92c.; do. for August, 92⅝@93⅛c., closing at 93⅛c.; do. for September, 94¼@94⅝c., closing at 94½c.....RYE—Market firm with a good export demand. Sales, 40,000 bush. Canada at 62c. for prompt delivery, and 73c. for May and June. Western quoted at 72c.....BARLEY AND BARLEY MALT—Quiet and prices without decided change.....CORN—Market without important change for cash lots, in instances a little higher. Options opened a shade firmer, then advanced ¼@⅝c., then lost a part of the advance, then with more strength, closing firm at the best prices. A fair export business, a moderate home trade, and fairly active transaction in options. Shippers bought 160,000 bush. Sales, 1,240,000 bush. future, 230,000 spot and special delivery, including Ungraded Mixed at 49@49½c.; No. 3, 48½@48⅝c.; Steamer Mixed, 48½@48⅝c. in elevator, 50½c. afloat, 49@49½c. for March. Steamer Yellow, 5 c. in elevator, 51c. afloat; No. 2 Yellow, 49½c. in elevator, 50½c. afloat; Steamer White, 51c. afloat; No. 2 Mixed for March, 48½@48⅝c., closing at 49c.; do. for April, 49¼@49⅝c., closing at 50c.; do. for May, 49¾@49⅞c., closing at 50½c.; do. for June, 49⅞@50⅛c., closing at 50½c.; do. for July, 51¼@51½c., closing at 51½c. OATS—Have advanced 1@2c. for cash lots, and 1½@2c. for options, closing steady at a shade under the best prices. Sales, 700,000 bush. future, 14,000 bush. cash, including No. 3 Mixed at 34½c.; No. 2, 37½@37¾c. in elevator, 37¾@37⅞c. to arrive, cost, freight and insurance; No. 2, 38c.; No. 3 White, 37c.; No. 2, 37½@37¾c. No. 1 Mixed Western, 37½@38c.; White do., 38@39c.; White State, 39@41c.; No. 2 Mixed for March, 37½@37¾c., closing at 37½c.; do. for April, 37¼@37½c., closing at 37¾c.; do. for May, 36¾@37c., closing at 37⅛c.; do. for June, 36¾@37c., closing at 36⅞c.

Quantity of Grain on passage March 19, 1885.

	Wheat, qrs.	Maize, qrs.
To United Kingdom	2,97,000	275,000
To Continent	2,00,000	175,000
Total, qrs	3,265,000	450,000
Equal bush	26,920,000	3,300,000
Cor. date, 1884, bush	18,200,000	1,520,000

Compared with previous week:

To United Kingdom	3,075,000	200,000
To Continent	280,000	100,000
Total, qrs	3,355,000	410,000
Equal bush	26,840,000	3,280,000
Increase, bush		80,000
Decrease, bush	770,000	

HAY AND STRAW—A moderately active trade was again noticed and holders retain steady figures. Stocks are not burdensome. We quote: Hay—No. 1 Timothy, 90c.; No. 2, 80@85c.; No. 3, 70@75c.; Shipping grades, 70c. Straw—No. 1 Rye, 90c.; No. 2, 80@85c.; Oat, 60@65c.

HIDES—Only a moderate, almost insignificant business was reported at present figures.

HOPS—A small movement to brewers was again reported, but shippers are difficult to operate to any extent. We quote: State, 1884, 16@17c.; good low to fair, 11@13c.; prime, 18@20c.; California, 1884, 11@15c.

METALS—On Change Pig Iron was steady though quiet. Spot in store at 17.50@17.60c.; do. in London easier at 47s 2d. Copper easier. Lead and spelter firm. Bostca warrants were 1d. lower and closed 41s. 3d.

MOLASSES—Quiet at 40@52c. for New-Orleans and 29c. for 60° test.

NAVAL STORES—Spirits Turpentine again ruled quiet but steady at 31½@32c. No sale, either for spot or future delivery. Rosins continued to rule quiet at $1 20@$1 23 for Strained to Good Strained. E., $1 20; F., $1 37½; G., $1 47½; H., $1 70; I., $1 90; K., $2 75; M., $3 25; N., $4 25; W. G., $4 60; W. W., $5 00. Tar and Pitch quiet.

OILS—Only a small jobbing trade was reported, but no especial changes in prices took place.

OCEAN FREIGHTS—On the market as a whole there was a moderate business accomplished, but the tone ruled easy. The items of interest were: To ANTWERP, hence, a British ship, 8,000 bbls. refined oil, 1s. 9d.; 1 lay days.....CORK ORDERS, from Baltimore, a British steamer refined, 9,000 quarters, 4s.; one from Philadelphia, 7,500 quarters 3s.; one from Baltimore, privilege of Newport News, 4s., and another at 4s. 1½d.....LONDON, hence, a British ship, 8,000 bbls. refined oil, 1s. 10½d.; another, 8,500 bbls. at 1s. 10½d.....MONTEVIDEO, for orders, a bark from Portland on private terms; one from Boston on private terms.....HAVANA, from Philadelphia, a schooner with empties, 75c. and coal $1.....GIBRALTAR and CADIZ, an American bark refitting,