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BROTHER IN BLACK

Under Critical Observation in the United States.

No More Negroes in Congress—Tuskegee's Tenth Conference—Tacoma's Turner—Civil Rights Case in Spokane—New York Race Riot.

When the fifty-sixth congress shal have become a thing of the past and its membership retired to private life, it will mark an epoch in the political history of this country such as has not been witnessed since 1870.

There will retire from that congress the Hon. George H. White, of North Carolina, who for the past six years has been a member of that body, and who might be said to some extent to represent the Negroes of the United States in the chief law-making body of the country, and with him every vestige of Afro-Americanism retires from the United States congress.

Since 1870, when Dr. Hiram R. Revels was elected to the United States senate from the state of Mississippi to succeed Jefferson Davis, the late president of the Confederate states, there has always been a Negro in one branch or the other of the United States congress, but the fifty-seventh congres will be uhered into existence without there being a single Negro as a member thereof. After the overthrow of the Radical party in the South in 1875, here and there congressional districts in which large numbers of colored voters lived have managed to at least elect one Negro to congress, but even that has now passed into innocuous desuetude.

There are at present about ten million Negroes in the United States, and it is rather remarkable that there are not one, two, three, and even more, persons who belong to that race members, not only of the house of representatives, but even members of the United States senate as well. There has never been but two colored United States senators, both hailing from Mississippi, Dr. Hiram R. Revels, and Hon. B. K. Bruce. Owing to the number of colored voters that have been disfranchised in the various Southern States, where they are found in the greatest numbers, it will be utterly impossible for any one of them to be elected to congres or to any other office so far as that is concerned for the next two or three decades, perhaps half a century. The Negroes, however, are becoming strong political factors in many of the Northern states and it is more than likely that some black Moses will rise up in Kansas, Iowa, Illinois or Ohio, and receive the nomination for congress and be elected despite the opposition of the Southern whites, and Democracy in general.

TENTH TUSKEGEE CONFERENCE.

Already circulars are being sent out from Tuskegee, the Booker T. Washington Normal school in Alabama, for the holding of the tenth Tuskegee Negro conference, which will convene Wednesday, February 20, 1901. These conferences have become rather remarkable in that section of the country among not only the colored folk, but the white folk as well, and hundreds of them attend the meetings every year. The Tuskegee conference was first established ten years ago, and it at first attracted but few visitors. The efficiency of the work, however, caused them to be widely discussed in the various newspapers of Alabama and the adjoining states, which attracted large numbers of farmers, and they soon assumed state importance. The colored farmers, who have been pegging away since their emancipation raising three or four bales of cotton a year and twenty-five or thirty bushels of grain, after attending one session of that conference began a systematic evolution in farming, as well as farm products, and a marked improvement was observed the first year thereafter. Now old colored men, who had learned nothing of either the art of farming or the science of farm manipulation, are reporting each year at those conferences of the improved conditions of their farms, the convertion of this or that worthless article into a paying industry, and how he has grown in finances since he first received instructions from the Tuskegee conference.

Prof. Washington, who is at the head of the institution, has wisely employed some of the best agriculturists of the country to lecture on these occasions, and he has also had men of economical experience, who have been able to utilize everything that has been raised on a farm, to make their farms a paying industry, instead of a something on which to eke out a mere existence for their owners. The whites at first were loath to attend institutions or conferences that were set apart and controlled by Negroes, and for a while one or two only attended, more for curiosity's sake than for the real good that they expected to gain therefrom, but this, too, has been overcome, and now on the appointed day hundreds of them from the farms of Alabama are seen making their way to Tuskegee to be present at the sessions of the conference. While the institution is for the most part self-sustaining, yet it has to purchase a great many things from the farmers, as well as sell a great many things to them, hence the white farmers as well as the colored farmers about Tuskegee sell everything that is raised on their farms to that institution, which has an attendance of something upwards of 2,000 students. The following extract from the circular sent out by Booker T. Washington concerning this conference is herewith quoted:

Extract from Circular.

"Ten years have passed since the first conference was held and there are many evidences that show the good influence of the movement on the masses of the people. THE NEGRO CONFERENCE IS WORKING ALONG SPECIFIC AND WELL DEFINED LINES; it is seeking to make the Negro himself improve his own condition, materially, morally and intellectually. The ways in which the Negro can do this are: first, to raise his food supplies at home; second, to get out of debt and make no more mortgages; third, to stop loafing around town ON SATURDAY in idleness and drunkenness; fourth, to oppose at all times the excursion habit; fifth, to have at least two rooms to his house; sixth, to prolong the school term by having a private supplement fund; seventh, TO BUY HOMES AND FARMS. These are the primary objects and aims of the Negro conference and they can be accomplished without the aid of any political party, without forever complaining about prejudice and without leaving the country."

TURNER TAKES TACOMA.

The re-election of County Assessor Hill, of Pierce county, means the continuance of Mr. Will Turner as chief deputy in the assessor's office of that county. Mr. Turner is said to be one of the most thorough men that has ever been in the county assessor's office in Pierce county or any other county in this state. It is also said that he knows every tract of land in the county, and can almost tell everything that the owners would want to know about it without even turning to the books. This will make Mr. Turner's tenth year in that office, and at the expiration of Mr. Hill's term there is no doubt but that he will be the next assessor of that county. He could have been the nominee of the party in 1896, but he desired another position, hence he refused the nomination. Mr. Turner is a graduate of the Gaines high school of Cincinnati, and has the reputation of being one of the most accurate accountants in the state of Washington, and this, too, despite the fact that he is an Afro-American, the alleged inferior race.

NEGROES WANT PLACES.

Quite a number of Negro politicians are expecting to receive appointments at the hands of the seventh legislature of this state, which convenes January 14, 1901. They expect this more this year than ever before from the very fact that during the four years the Populists have had control of the legislature, quite a number of colored men were given places as helpers during the sessions. Already applications have been received by the respective members of the coming seventh legislature from colored men at Spokane, Roslyn, Tacoma and Seattle, with others to hear from. From a partisan standpoint The Republican believes that it would be wise and consistent for some one or two places to be set apart or decided upon by the members of the legislature to give to some colored applicant from Spokane, and from Roslyn, as well as from Tacoma and Seattle. Four of them could be very nicely cared for, and still no friction would be caused or should be caused by other persons in like positions. Just what places they want is more than this paper is prepared to state just now, but evidently they want something and they ought to have it.

Desk room for rent, 714 3rd Ave.

HOLMES AND CIVIL RIGHTS.

It has been learned at this office that E. H. Holmes, of Spokane, Wash., has lost his civil rights case, which he caused to be instituted some months ago. It seems that Mr. Holmes and his wife were refused accommodations at a certain restaurant in that city and believing that such was a violation of the laws of this state, he instituted both civil and criminal proceedings against the keper for the insult. His attorneys believed that it was best to push the criminal case first, so it first went to trial, before a local justice of the peace, and after a whole week's proceedings of the affair the justice held the restaurant keeper to the superior court in heavy bonds. A civil suit was then filed against the restaurant keeper, asking $5,000 damages on the part of Mr. Holmes for being refused accommodations at a public inn. This case went to trial last week and consumed an entire week. The jury retired late last Friday, and after a deliberation which lasted through the entire night, returned a verdict the next day for the defendant, denying Mr. Holmes the right to claim any damage for being refused accommodation by a restaurant keeper. Whether or not the case will go to the supreme court will depend solely upon the financial condition of Mr. Holmes and his friends. A great many persons in this state, both white and black, would be glad to see the matter taken to the supreme court and have a ruling on it. If the law is unconstitutional they would like to know that fact, and it would thereby prevent a great deal of unpleasantness and embarrassment on the part of proprietors and patrons of restaurants and other places of public accommodation. If it is generally known that this or that place will not accommodate persons of color, or persons of distinct nationality, and if it is generally known that there is no law to compel the proprietor to do so, then there will be no unpleasant difficulties or humiliations occurring in those places, for the objectionable colored patrons would have sense enough for the most part at least, to stay out.

NEW YORK'S RACE RIOTS.

Early in October there occurred a race riot in New York, in which a number of colored folks were badly beaten by the police and the citizens. This riot, it seems, started among the slums of both the Negroes and whites in New York City, and the police were called in to quell the same, but instead of dealing with the rioters as they should have done, they became distinct allies of the whites, and many hundreds of the colored folks were clubbed almost to insensibility in the streets, and in many instances persons wholly innocent of being connected with the riot in any manner, shape or form were badly beaten by the police. It is also said that many colored persons were hunted down at their homes, dragged out by the police and handed over to the infuriated mob, and were beaten unmercifully and were driven from place to place by the rioters. An investigation was ordered by the mayor of New York, apparently for nothing else than election purposes, for no sooner was the election over than the investigation was abruptly discontinued. Now, the colored folks do not believe that the police acted according to law in that affair and have applied to Gov. Roosevelt to continue the investigation from a gubernatorial standpoint, and their appeal has been favorably looked upon by the governor, and it is said that he will order a thorough investigation of the whole affair. It was but a short time ago that Mayor Van Wyck was threatened with removal by the governor for the part he played in the great New York ice trust, and it is given out now that if it be true that he has refused to continue the investigation, and that the police are guilty of the crime that they are reported to be guilty of, the governor may take steps toward the removal of Mayor Van Wyck from the mayoralty of Greater New York.

The A. M. E. churcht loses another bishop in M. M. Moore, whose death is reported in another column. He was one of the five elevated to the bishopric at the last general conference, which met in Columbus last July. He was an eloquent speaker, and was counted a tireless worker.—Outlook.

This office has received a number of letters of inquiry concerning an assurance association for Negroes only. It is investigating it slowly, but surely, and will answer those letters through the columns of this paper in the very near future. Dr. Burdett seems to be at the head of it.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Pooled and Picked Up by Our Man About Town.

A General Observation of Men and Things—Facts and Figures About Nations and Their Customs—Uncle Sam's Great Commercial Increase.

Paris has sixty wholesale firms that deal exclusively in mushrooms.

Great Britain makes 800,000,000 yards of linen a year.

The Turkish people believe that the sun retires at night for prayer and religious recreation.

It is said that an ox can carry on a day's journey 200 pounds, a camel 400 and a man 30.

England has two new members of the house of commons who are married to American women.

According to a geolgist the sand on the African desert varies in depth from thirty to forty feet.

Statistics declare that twenty million tons of coal are brought into London every year and consumed.

The ribs of tobacco leaves are now being converted into pulp from which paper is made.

The mineral output of Canada for the year 1899 is placed at $47,000,000, of which $21,049,000 was gold.

A couple in Elizabeth, Pa., who have been married sixty years now have 227 descendants.

In Michigan compressed air motors are rapidly supplanting the use of mules in the various mines of the state.

According to a dispatch from British India, that government has just expended $12,500,000 on new guns for its army.

Spain has one million women who work in the fields as day laborers and 350,000 women registered as day servants. None of them earn little more than their daily bread.

Easton, Pennsylvania, has a woman who was recently fined $50.25 for uttering seventy-five oaths or 67 cents for each oath by the police judge.

It is now reported that there were 600 "cow punchers" hailing from Nebraska, Wyoming and Colorado among the Canadian volunteers who fought in South Africa.

Twenty years ago Toronto, Canada, began the erection of a city hall, which was to cost but $300,000. The hall is by no means near completed as yet, and it has cost $2,345,000.

The tanners of this country are using electricity in their business almost exclusively, and this is especialy done where electricity can be successfully reached.

Consumption seems to be the fatal disease of Norway, and physicians declare that not less than 7,000 inhabitants of that country die annually from its ravages.

Titled Canadians have now reached the fatal number of thirteen, which is made up of seven peers and six baronets. Of non-hereditary knights Canada boasts of thirty-two.

London has suffered considerably for the past year from an ostrich plume famine, which has been caused by the war in South Africa. It is said over $4,000,000 worth of feathers are sold yearly in London.

Juvenile smoking in Australia seems to be encouraged rather than forbidden, and smoking rooms are bulit in connection with various school houses, where the young urchins can go out and smoke at pleasure.

There are eight states in this Union of states which have uniformly voted for Republican presidents since 1860, viz: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Iowa.

A cave has been discovered in Jefferson county, Indiana, which it is thought will rival the famous underground passage of Kentucky. Its aperture was accidentally discovered and expert geologists are now exploring the underground cavern.

A German syndicate has just purchased a large strip of land in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky, on which they estimate there is at present standing 800,000 varieties of the finest specimens of oak trees. These are to be judiciously converted into lumber.

Queen Victoria has a private railway station at Osborne, her country home, and no one, not even members of the family, are allowed to use the station but her. The royal yacht is connected with the station, and from this she can either enter her yacht or her railway coach.

A Cincinnati school board clerk who has been considered one of the most honest and upright of men and who has been working on the board for a number of years, has succeeded in stealing $100,000 and was not detected until he had resigned and absconded for parts unknown.

In Persia human tears are said to be a remedy for chronic diseases, and at every funeral the bottling of tears is one of the chief ceremonial rites. The mourners are presented with sponges on which to wipe their eyes, and the fluid is extracted from them, bottled and sold for medicinal purposes.

In a coal mine at Daulton, O., there is a pet mule by the name of Jim, which has been in that mine for many years. Lately Jim was transferred to another mine, whereupon 400 miners at once struck and refused positively to go back to work until Jim was brought back to the mine, which was done.

Mr. Hayes, who is to succeed Collis P. Huntington, as president of the Southern Pacific railway system, first began work as a brakeman on that road at $7 per week. From one position to another he has meritoriously stepped into until he has reached the presidency of the greatest railway system in the world.

Some of the soldiers and army officers who are now serving in the Philippine islands are asking the war department to be discharged from the service for the express purpose of going into business in that island. Where the applicant convinces the officers that such is his intention, he is at once discharged from further army duties.

When a couple in Russia enters the church for the marriage ceremony, both bride and groom make a rush for the platform on which the pulpit stands. It is believed by the peasants that the one whose foot first touches the platform will live the longer, and that the children will take after that one in size, health and beauty.

The desk which was formerly owned by Robert G. Ingersoll and sat in his office at Peoria, Ill., and on which many of his ablest articles were penned has been recently purchased by the Y. M. C. A. of that city and the same placed in their ra city, and the same placed in their railroad department. The desk was secured by that organization more as a memento and as a rebuke to Ingersollism than for its real or intrinsic value.

Frank Daniels will be at the Seattle theater next week in a new role. It is that of the ruler of Afghanistan in a comic opera called "The Ameer." The opera is described as having all the ear marks of success, and in New York last winter it was pronounced "the comic opera success of the season." But for that matter, so long as Daniels is not tempted to stray from the well-beaten path of comedy into more serious lanes, it is doubtful if any production he undertakes will be called a failure. Frank Daniels has a humor all his own.

At Lacona, New York, lives Rev. Daniel Daly, who is the rector of a little Episcopal church in that community. Rev. Daly is a brother of the multi-millionaire Marcus Daly, who recently died, but unlike his wealthy brother, all of his possessions would not sell for $1,500; in fact, he is in abject poverty. Rev. Daly does not regret that his brother did not include him in his will of millions, for they had been separated for many years and did not know the whereabouts of each other until recently, when letters were passed between them. There is another brother living who is worth his millions, and it is thought that he will make some provision for Rev. Daly.

An inexhaustible oil field has been struck near Sacramento, Cal., at the headwaters of Cache creek. It was discovered by watching an old farmer who was selling petroleum of the most refined quality to the oil dealers of that city without giving any explanation as to where he got it from. Detectives were put on his track and he was traced to the well from whence the oil had been taken. There was a rush at once for the community, and while the old granger would not sell his farm or any part thereof, other wells have been located and it is said by geologists that there is an inexhaustable field of oil in that section of the country. It is also said to be the richest, most refined and purest petroleum ever taken from the ground.

Mr. Charles S. Jones, who formerly lived in this city and was steward of the Washington Club, who went East some two years ago, has returned and will again try the Queen City.

Hon. E. B. Palmer has returned from a two weeks' hunting trip in Idaho and Eastern Washington.

Telephone Main 305 for desk room. Steam heat.

TOWN TOPICS

Culled and Collected From the World of Science.

Who Puts In a Few Pointed Punches As to the Way Things Are Going, Political and Otherwise—Personal and Local Paragraphs.

A ballot box isn't hard to fill in Kentucky.

Jimmie Ham is talking for publi-
To the Editor:

The d—l and Blethen have taken hold of the Democratic party.

Time has seemed to set the seal of its approval on one-dollar gas.

The new chief of police is a thin pretension trotting along behind "sloppy distress."

Aguinaldo Blethen should cover the past with planks—so far as his banking record is concerned.

Ronald didn't cut the congressional stick. He might find relief by occasionally writing "Krug-ged" stories for the Court News.

The Socialists never miss a meal or salute a saw-buck. Their form of exercise largely depends on the condition of the wind.

Spokane Robinson's wit (-) won't be an appreciative quality in the next congress. The Republican cyclone stood him in a patch of dog-fennel.

Rev. (?) Clark Davis should not be permitted to remain in his position of semi-obscurity. What's the matter with the voice of his countrymen?

The Evening Bladder's editorials cation. Standing in front of a looking-glass twisting his beautiful sassatras whiskers is more becoming. It is hoped that the "kurnel" will bother us no moah.

Hundreds of suckers are acquiring "education" at the hands of quack doctors. The Republican believes that some of these "scavengers" are good penitentiary timber. Justice is slowly approaching.

Little Jay Allen, of Floridah, sah! is becoming ambitious to blossom as a candidate. The Republican will scratch his head with the corrugated elbow of a stovepipe if he runs for office at the next election. This is not a draft of cold air, Mr. Josephus.

The mayor—the biggest disappointment in the community—has degenerated into a cold chill with a hollow cough. Slowly the old man is sinking out of sight. Killing game out of season may be forgotten, but political treachery lives in the minds of succeeding generations.

The Republican makes a motion that the gamblers be put on the chain gang. A stiff on the rascals and they would never set foot on this soil again. The duty must be performed.

THE CAUSE OF HIS DEFEAT.

The Spokesman-Review copies what purports to be an interview with a Washington Star reporter and the Hon. John L. Wilson, of this state. The article has caused a decided sensation in political circles, and further developments are expected. It seems that Mr. Wilson accounted for the defeat of Senator Frink by the assertion that it was caused by the unpopularity of Gov. J. H. McGraw. Now, we have no desire to enlarge on the above statement or vouch for its truth or falsity, but simply use it as a base for some reflections on the existing conditions of the victorious party of this state in the late election. Every well informed man in this county is perfectly satisfied in his own mind that Mr. Fink was defeated by a faction of the Republican party, not because they had any grievance against him personally, but because they supposed they were playing even with some of his most prominent supporters. That they made a egregious mistake we are sure they will readily admit when they become fully aware of the relations existing between the parties to the controversy. Mr. Frink is an independent, upright man, who would despise himself if he supposed that he was weak enough to allow any man or set of men to control or influence his official actions., and this fact is well known to those who are on intimate terms with the ex-senator. But the past is an unprofitable subject for comment, especially at present. There are dark clouds hanging over the future of the party which will take skillful engineers to scatter.

Threats of retribution for past offenses are freely indulged in, and many active workers have openly declared that they would revenge the wrong done their favorites. If the great party which has met and conquered the enemy so often is to split into fragments, then indeed will the future be dark. If the whole matter could be dropped there would be some chance for the party hereafter, but the rank and file of the followers of each faction are determined to fight it out, and we will be very lucky if there are not three factions to deal with instead of the two now existing. CITIZEN.

The Associated Press dispatches announce that L. S. J. Hunt, a former newspaper wonder of this city and at one time the leading financier of the Northwest, has decided to put in a morning paper in the Seattle field within the next few months. It is reported that Mr. Hunt is now in New York, purchasing the materials preparatory for the establishment of such a paper. Since Mr. Hunt left this country it is claimed that he has amassed a fortune running into millions in Corea, and that he is anxious to return to Seattle and to once more become a political leader and manipulator in its Republican politics. Much speculation has been indulged in by the street politicians since the report was first printed, and, owing to a slight misunderstanding which seems to have arisen within the past few days between some of the leading politicians of the state, it looks as if the Republican party is doomed to have three instead of two factions, for certain it is that the Post-Intelligencer will find some bitter political enemies among the former worshipers of L. S. J. Hunt, who have been worshiping at the shrine of the Post-Intelligencer and its present owner for no other reason than that they had no other place to worship.

Dave K. Larimer, the late political editor of the Daily Liar of this city, has resigned, and it to represent the Oregonian at Olympia during the coming session of the seventh legislature. Mr. Larimer received this appointment at the hands of Teddy Piper, who was formerly connected with the Post-Intelligencer, and who gave employment at that time to Mr. Larimer. In all the political deals in which the Pipers and their followers attempted turns in this city and county Dave Larimer was always a faithful lieutenant, and Mr. Piper has designated him for this position simply as a reward for the favors he showed him when a politician in King county.

Grose-Jones.—United in the holy bonds of matrimony last Wednesday night were Mr. George H. Grose and Miss Aurora E. Jones. The happy contracting parties are among Seattle's leading and most highly esteemed Afro-Americans, and each of them is a prominent member of the A. M. E. church, on Jones street. Mr. Grose is a pioneer of this city, having come here with his parents when a mere child. He has more than once been a prominent business man of Seattle, and is at present devoting himself to real estate dealings, and no man in the city stands better than he. Miss Jones is a recent graduate of the Sacramento, Cal., high school, and although she has only been a resident of the city for the past two years she has taken an active as well as prominent part in church and literary work and has won for herself a host of friends among those with whom she has been associated. The ceremony was a quiet affair, only relatives of the high contracting parties being present.

Accodring to the census of 1890, there were in the United States about 32,000 taxed and taxable Indians having the right of suffrage as citizens of the different states. Ninety-eight per cent. of these were living upon the reservations and and were practically indistinguishable from the white citizens of their community. The breaking up of more reservations will increase the number of taxable Indians in the present census, and it is possible that nearly every red man in the country will be enfranchised before the presidential election of 1904.

England pays $20,000,000 a year in subsidies to fast mail steamships and in the last sixty years, during which period she has gained and maintained her supremacy of the seas, she has paid in subsidies $240,000,000. This is an object lesson for us in how to increase our shipping.—Exchange.

Telephone Main 305 for desk room. Steam heat.

A COMMERCIAL INCREASE.

The last year of the century has been to the United States the most wonderful in its commercial history. Our total exports for the ten months ended with October were $1,194,775,205, or double the total exports for the ten months ended with October, 1894. In the ten months of 1900, our exports exceeded imports by $499,667,936. The year will for the first time in the history of our commerce, show exports of more than $100,000,000 in every month of the year. The exports of last October amounted to $163,093,597, the largest exportation for one month on record. Exports of cotton in the single month of October amounted to over $60,000,000, against $28,000,000 in October, 1899, $30,000,000 in October, 1898, and $32,000,000 in October, 1897.

The report of the commissioner of navigation shows that for the first time since the civil war the recorded tonnage of the United States exceeds 5,000,000 tons. On June 30, 1900, the American documentary tonnage included 23,333 vessels of 5,164,839 gross tons, or an increase of 300,000 tons over the previous fiscal year. The maximum tonnage in 1861 was 5,539,813 tons. Our shipping then was larger than Great Britain's. Now British shipping amounts to 14,261,000 gross tons.

A century ago American shipping registered for foreign trade was 669,921 tons. Last year our tonnage in the foreign trade was only 816,795 tons, while there were employed in our coastwise trade 4,338,145 tons, or more than the total tonnage of Germany and France. Our shipping has increased during the last decade 740,342 tons, 502,523 tons of this standing to the credit of the Great Lakes, and 184,512 tons to the Pacific coast.

Desk room for rent, 714 3rd Ave.

CONGRESS IN SESSION.

Last Monday marked the opening of the last session of the fifty-sixth congress, and for the most part, all of the members were present. The opening last Monday was said to be the most brilliant in the history of our country. The first bill of the term was introduced by Representative Crumpacker, Republican, from Indiana, and it provided for the reapportionment of the fifty-eighth congress. Instead of the fifty-eighth congress containing 357 members as does the present and the next congress, this bill provides a membership of 365. The twelfth census will show an increase in population in some of the states and a decrease in others, and the apportionment is based on that report. The following states will gain by the new apportionment: Arkansas, 1; Colorado, 1; California, 1; Connecticut, 1; Florida, 1; Illinois, 2; Massachusetts, 1; Maine, 2; North Dakota, 1; Pennsylvania, 2; Texas, 2; Washington, 1; West Virginia, 1.

The following states will lose by the new apportionment: Kansas, 1; Louisiana, 2; Mississippi, 3; Nebraska, 1; North Carolina, 4; South Carolina, 3; Virginia, 1. Should this bill become a law, it will cut down the representation from those Southern states that have legally disfranchised a large number of their voters, a measure which has been advocated by the leading politicians of the North for a good many years. Perhaps the measure never would have been passed had not the Southern states gone into the disfranchisement business on such a wholesale extent. It is to be hoped that the Republican members will stand by the bill and make it a law before the present congress expires.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

President McKinley's message was read to congress last Monday, and it was one of the longest and most voluminous documents that has been sent to congress for a good many years. The president dwelt exhaustively with all the subjects and questions of public importance that are now agitating the minds of this republic. The Chinese troubles, he declared, have given this country much concern, but he looks forward to an early settlement thereof. His reference to the growth of the foreign trade of this country during the past four years shows very conclusively that he is of the opinion that general prosperity has reigned supreme throughout the country during his term. Much favorable political comment has been heard on the streets concerning the message since its appearance in the daily papers, and the concensus of opinion is that the president is showing that he is a statesman and a patriotic American citizen instead of being a pothouse politician, which he was so generally accused of being by the demagogues in the late campaign.