

WORK OF THE WINDS.

Spread of the Big Storm Throughout Eastern Sections.

A PANIC AT A CHURCH.

During a Christmas Celebration a Portion of the Roof Was Blown Away.

MANY PEOPLE WERE INJURED.

Unusually Heavy Rains Block Traffic in Many Portions of the Country.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 26.—The high wind that accompanied to-night's rainstorm nearly caused a terrible disaster at the Mariners' Bethel Church, at Front and Union streets. A Christmas-tree celebration was being held at the church and the little building was packed with about 600 people, many of whom were children.

Just before 10 o'clock the merry participants in the festival were startled by what sounded like a heavy blow on the roof above their heads. The noise was followed by falling bricks and mortar, and in the efforts to escape from the impending danger a wild panic ensued among the people in the church.

A rush was made for the single exit, and women and children were trampled under foot by the stronger in the rush for safety. About half of the people succeeded in getting out of the church before some of the cooler heads in the crowd pacified the fears of the panic-stricken people.

Although a number of people were knocked down in the flight from the church and a number of others were cut by the falling bricks and mortar, no one was very seriously hurt. An examination of the cause of the panic showed that about half of the roof of the building had been lifted off by the wind.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Dec. 26.—One of the worst storms in a long time telegraph and telephone companies in this vicinity passed over Pittsburg and Western Pennsylvania. Wires are down in all directions and communication with the East is badly impaired. Rain began here early in the afternoon and the downpour gradually increased until about 8 o'clock to-night. High winds also prevailed, which played sad havoc with the telegraph wires.

The storm seems to have been at its worst east of Pittsburg. Near Hopewell on the Huntington and Broad Top railway a tree was blown down across the railroad track. A train crashed into the obstruction and a railroad foreman was killed. The rain has now ceased, but snow is falling. The signal station here has had no communication with points east of Pittsburg up to 9:45 o'clock to-night.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Dec. 26.—About 9 o'clock to-night this city was visited by a velocity of heavy wind and rain storm. The velocity of the wind continued to increase gradually up to about 10:30 o'clock, when the registers in the weather bureau indicated that the wind was blowing at the rate of fifty miles an hour. At that hour the rain fell in torrents and the streets were wholly deserted. Up to a late hour there were but few accidents reported, and they were of a trifling character.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 26.—The worst blizzard that ever visited this vicinity struck the city early this morning. It has continued with increasing violence ever since, until now the streets are almost impassable and telephone and electric wires are one tangled mass.

There is not a telephone in working order. One horse was killed and several persons knocked senseless by coming in contact with large wires.

Large gangs of men are trying to get across the streets, but the storm is increasing in force and bids fair to leave the city without electric light. The damage to the telephone company is enormous.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Dec. 26.—The Gasconade and Osage rivers are falling and the situation is more encouraging. No estimate of the loss to farmers has been made yet. In some districts the floods have left desolation and destitution. Along the Osage and Moreau valleys the crops were almost entirely ruined and there is much distress.

At Bagnell the Osage is still three miles wide and no train has been able to get within a mile and a half of the town for four days. Only the roofs of the highest buildings can be seen in Truesdalia, which is almost entirely submerged. The property loss has been exceedingly heavy.

NOBLESVILLE, Ind., Dec. 26.—A furious snowstorm has raged here since last midnight. The snow is wet, sticking to and breaking off the tops of trees and impeding travel generally.

SAN ANGELO, Tex., Dec. 26.—News reached here this afternoon of a disaster in which several lives were lost and much property destroyed last Tuesday night. The wind and rainstorm which swept over Western Texas assumed the fierceness of a hurricane.

At Nanimbricks' ranch, near Sterling City, on a branch of the Concho River, about sixty miles northwest of this place, Orlando Carder, his wife and daughter, were in a cabin, and Juan Vargas and Elmo Dealto, two herders, boarded with them. The cabin was wrecked and blown into the stream and the five occupants were drowned.

Two miles farther down the river Alberto Jardin and Pedro Sardis were drowned while trying to escape from a sudden rise in the Concho. The storm coming on suddenly in the night, the victims had no warning and could not protect themselves. The whole country in the Concho valley is overflowed and many sheep and cattle have been drowned.

INDICTMENTS DISMISSED. Some of the New York Police Escape Prosecution.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Dec. 26.—In the Court of Oyer and Terminer this morning indictments against a number of members of the police department which were found as a result of disclosures before the Lexow Committee were dismissed. The men against whom indictments were found and which were dismissed to-day were: Former Captain Michael J. Murphy, deaf; Sergeants George G. Liebers, Hugh Clark, Charles A. Parkinson and James W. Jordan; Wardmen John Hoch, Bernard Meahan, Jeremiah S. Levy and George Smith, and Roundsmen Michael A. Dows and John Kenny and A. S. Larkin. The others,

Colonel Fellows said, would be brought to trial speedily.

BILL DOOLIN IS BOLD.

Will Only Surrender Upon His Own Terms.

PERRY, O. T., Dec. 26.—Bill Doolin, the only remaining member of the old Dalton gang, was in Perry last night, so men who know him say, and his object in coming here is, it is said, to surrender to Deputy Marshal Steve Burke. The plan fell through, however, and he rode out of town. A large force of marshals is here to-day, and unless Doolin can get terms to suit him no arrest will be made. Doolin was accompanied by three comrades, one of whom is said to have been Bill Carr, who is wanted at Oklahoma City for the murder of Chief of Police Jones and who recently skipped his bond.

There is a large reward out for Carr, and there is said to be a reward of \$6000 for the arrest of Bill Doolin. Deputy Sheriff Burke says Doolin will be under arrest soon.

MORRILL FOR TEMPERANCE.

Kansas' Governor Favors State Control of Saloons.

TOPEKA, Kan., Dec. 26.—While Governor Morrill is very much of a Republican in most everything he is quite a Populist when it comes to the solution of the temperance question. He favors State control of the liquor traffic.

In an interview to-day the Governor declared that he was an enemy of the open saloon and did not want to be understood as opposing the work of the temperance society. He simply believed that State control of the liquor traffic would bring better results for the temperance cause than prohibition. "If I have occasion to make another temperance speech," the Governor added, "I will talk for State control."

HOWARD FOR PRESIDENT.

An Interesting Petition Sent Out by Friends of the Christian Soldier.

Grand Army Men Asked to Assist in the Movement to Boom the General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26.—A petition of some interest has been sent to the Grand Army officials of the district in favor of General O. Howard for President. His name was suggested by Rev. A. B. Deming of Oakland, Cal., in a recent sermon, and petitions have been sent out to clergymen and Grand Army men for their signatures and pledges of support at the polls if General Howard should be nominated.

The heading of the petitions exhorts the enrollment and organization of all the friends of General Howard into legions in every ward, election and school district of every State immediately. California legions are requested to send their lists of officers to Mr. Deming, and to procure from him campaign documents. When the petitions are filled a request is made that they be sent to General Howard at Burlington, Vt. General Howard is characterized in the preamble as one of the Nation's competent, loyal and worthy citizens. He is further denominated in the preamble as the first choice of God's people for the Presidency of the United States in 1886.

The Grand Army posts of the District are not allowed by their by-laws to endorse any candidate or office-holder, and no action was taken concerning the petition. It may, however, be circulated among the veterans for their signatures and also among the churches, especially the Congregational, as General Howard is of that faith and is particularly popular with Congregational people.

Some argument has been made by persons, not politicians, that General Howard might be a dark horse and would have a fighting chance if Mr. Lee could not secure the nomination, in the fact that he is himself a Maine man and had commanded a Maine regiment at the battle of Bull Run.

AN IMMENSE CAVE.

It Promises to Surpass All Others in Kentucky.

BOWLING GREEN, Ky., Dec. 26.—The section of country lying north of this place, famous for its immense caverns, has yielded another cave which promises to far surpass any that has previously been discovered, the Mammoth cave not excepted. The entrance to the newly discovered cavern is in Edmonson County, and only two miles from the Mammoth. It is called "Colossal Cave."

Nothing of the interior of this cave was known until recently, and it has as yet been only partially explored. The cave has entered it for upward of twelve miles without finding the end, and they met with new and varied attractions at every step. One of the most curious formations is that of a region of a gigantic piano in Floral Hall. It is perfect in form and emits a musical sound. The walls of many of the chambers and avenues are as smooth as a slate, and gorgeously and beautifully colored in many hues.

MINORITY ASSIGNMENTS.

Call of a Caucus of Democratic Members of the Senate.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26.—Senator Gorman has issued a call for a caucus of the Democratic members of the Senate to be held to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock for the purpose of acting upon the report of the committee charged with the duty of filling the vacancies on the committees making the minority assignments. All the assignments to the important committees have been given in previous United Press dispatches.

The Republicans have acquiesced in an understanding that organization shall not be operative until January 1, inasmuch as all employed have been paid for the present month and endless confusion would result from an immediate transfer.

The Kentucky Senatorship.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Dec. 26.—The several candidates for Senator on both the Democratic and Republican tickets are expected here to-morrow. All the candidates have selected their headquarters and will have lieutenants at the various hotels and boarding-houses where the members expect to stay. It is believed the Republican nomination is about an equal chance between Hunter, Holt and Wilson and is by no means settled.

To Purchase Granite Quarries.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Dec. 26.—Arrangements are being made to form a big stock company for the purchase of all the leading granite quarries of Vermont. At present the plan of consolidation includes only the Vermont quarries, but, if successful, it may be extended to extend to the quarries in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Maine and New Hampshire.

Beaten With a Club.

JALAPA, Mex., Dec. 26.—A. H. Woods, superintendent of the Mexican Inter-oceanic Railway, was attacked by a disaffected station agent last night near Paler and probably fatally injured. He was beaten with a club and would have been killed outright but for the interference of the police officers.

WILL RAISE REVENUES.

Continued from First Page.

States refuse to vote for this bill? You have been crying year after year for a tariff for revenue with incidental protection, and this is your time. We give it to you as a necessary measure. We give it to you to increase the revenue. We give it to your President and your Secretary of the Treasury to help lift the treasury out of the bankrupt condition which it seems to be the fate of every Democratic administration that ever had full control of the Government to get it into, from the time of Monroe to the time of Grover Cleveland. [Loud applause from Republican ranks and from the galleries.]

Dalzell (R.) of Pennsylvania, a member of the Committee on Ways and Means, repeated what he had said in the discussion as to the rule that the pending measure was in no sense a protective tariff bill, or a revision of the tariff, or an attempt to correct tariff irregularities, but was simply an emergency revenue measure, matured in haste under the whip and spur of a pressing and cruel necessity. When passed it would be a conspicuous tribute to the patriotism of the Republican party rising above party prejudice at the summons of a Democratic President. Believing that the cause of the trouble was the lack of revenue, the Committee of Ways and Means had responded to the President's appeal for aid. He trusted that when the bill went to the Senate it would find republican support there, and that when it went to the President he would do that which patriotism demanded and that the bill would become a law for the immediate relief of the country.

"And then," he said, "a year hence when a succession to the two tidal waves that have already swept the land shall sweep some great Republican leader into the White House and give us a Republican Senate and House, we will frame a tariff bill that will be in the interest of America for Americans." [Applause on the Republican side and in the galleries.]

Bell (Pop.) of Colorado did not believe that the remedy for the trouble was in increasing taxation, but in the coinage of silver bullion in the treasury and paying it out.

Dockery (D.) of Missouri argued against the bill.

Hopkins (R.) of Illinois argued in favor of its passage. He asked why the Democrats, if they did not like that remedy, had not provided a remedy of their own.

Grosvener (R.) of Ohio said that he gave his support to the pending measure because it was a revenue measure, and because it was demanded by the message of the President. If it were not so demanded, then the President was guilty of an assault on the integrity of the treasury—a charge which he could not lay at the door of an American President.

The discussion was ended for the opponents of the bill by Turner (D.) of Georgia. The administration of President Harrison, he said, came into power with a surplus in the treasury over the gold reserve of \$243,000,000. It turned over to the present administration four years later a surplus of \$92,000,000, of which \$54,000,000 belonged to the fund deposited in the treasury for the redemption of greenbacks. The Secretary of the Treasury had hoped, as had been stated, to issue bonds to protect the gold reserve and to meet deficiencies in revenue. It was under these embarrassing conditions that the Democrats returned to power in 1883. That party said the remedy for that situation was not to raise taxes, but to lower them, and it went forward courageously and passed a law putting that principle into operation. Under that bill wages went up from New England to California, and exportations from the United States had actually increased.

There lay behind the bill, he said, a motive which was not apparent on its face. It spoke with a sort of popgun report upon one or two articles in the tariff bill. The Republicans should, Turner said, send an apology to W. M. Springer amid the Indians, "A resolution of thanks," he said, "was also due to the Democratic party for furnishing the plank upon which the bill was framed—a tariff for revenue only."

Turner said he was informed that no amendments could be offered to the bill. If that privilege were open to him he might utilize it to suggest that no tariff law now on the statute book took effect on August 27, 1894, as recited in the bill. The so-called Wilson bill, he said, became a law on the 28th day of August, 1894. That was a sample, he said, of the hostility and carelessness with which it had been prepared. For his part, he said in conclusion, he would prefer to lower than to raise taxes. [Applause.]

Arnold (R.) of Pennsylvania and Knox (R.) of Massachusetts spoke briefly in support of the bill.

Dolliver (R.) of Iowa, closing the debate, said: "There is much in what the gentleman from Georgia (Turner) said as to the hurry and anxiety with which this bill has been prepared. He ought not, however, even in the midst of such remarks that he has made to the House, to lay upon the majority of the Committee on Ways and Means any responsibility for such a blunder in the date of the act of 1894 as that to which he has called the attention of the House. The act of 1894, for reasons which the Democratic party ought to appreciate, was not signed by the President of the United States, and it appears upon the statutes at large without the signature of the President, with the annotation at the beginning of it that the date of it is August 27, 1894. [Applause.] If that is not the true date of the act of 1894, it only indicates that the State Department is mixed up with the general incompetency that has marked the present administration."

Turner—It only shows that my friend did not thoroughly investigate the subject for himself.

Dolliver—I understand that if we cannot rely on the statute at large, printed by a Democratic Secretary of State, for information on God's footstool ought we to go for information to the Secretary of the Treasury? [Laughter.]

"Now, the gentleman says," continued Dolliver, "that notwithstanding all we have seen, and know, we are in the midst of a general revival of prosperity, that wages have increased in all parts of the country and that all these blessings we owe to the tariff law of 1894. I don't propose to enter into a controversy on the subject for myself, but I do say that my Democratic friend from Georgia (Turner) ought to be very careful about attributing any great amount of American prosperity to the operation of the law of 1894. If the American people can be persuaded that it will do more to popularize perjury and dishonesty than anything that has ever happened in this world. [Laughter.]

"My friend asks the Republican majority why we do not bring in a general tariff law (and he refers to the leadership of this House as wanting in courage), but the leadership of this House can always be relied on not to fight as one that beath

the air.' Why, we know and everybody knows, that a general Republican tariff law cannot be enacted by this Congress.

We do not know that the President would not sign the present bill. Does my friend speak by some commission when he says that the administration declines this relief? We have the best reason for knowing that this law will please the present chief magistrate. We had a letter from the President in the last session of Congress which contains evidence that he will sign this law restoring a reasonable revenue duty upon wool.

"With all his eloquence and all his ability the gentleman from Georgia cannot explain how this fifth agricultural interest of this country was put on the free list, while 60 per cent of the McKinley law was retained upon iron ore. There is one thing that we all ought to be agreed upon whatever else we are divided about, and that is that the treasury of the United States should no longer be left at the mercy of the organized avarice of the world, without money to pay or power to borrow, or means for increasing the public revenues, and so, Mr. Speaker, closing this debate, I appeal to the patriotic sentiment that may still be supposed to reside in the Democratic breast to come to the level to which the Republican party has come in offering upon revenue principles a measure to relieve the embarrassment and distress of the treasury of the United States." [Applause.]

The bill was read a third time, and on the question of its passage the yeas and nays were called, resulting: Yeas 205, nays 81.

The vote was on strict party lines, the Democrats voting with the Democrats against the bill. Newlands (silver) of Nevada voted aye.

Cannon (R.) of Utah offered a joint resolution, which was passed, calling upon the Governor and Secretary of the Territory of Utah to turn over to the Governor and Secretary of the State of Utah, upon the issuance of the executive proclamation announcing its admission to the Union, all the public property in their possession, including that of the Utah Commission.

Under cover of debating the resolution Bailey (D.) of Texas had read what he described as a substitute for the bill to be presented reported by the Committee on Ways and Means. It directed the Secretary of the Treasury to coin all the silver bullion now in the treasury purchased under the Sherman act of 1890 into standard dollars and with them to redeem the notes issued under that law.

At 5:40 o'clock the House, on motion by Dingley (R.) of Maine, adjourned.

MUST INCREASE REVENUES.

Report of the Ways and Means Committee on Finances.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26.—The bills introduced by Dingley were accompanied by the following reports:

"The Committee on Ways and Means to whom was referred so much of the President's annual message and so much of the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury as relates to revenue and the condition of the treasury, and also the President's special message presenting the urgency of immediate action of Congress in a direction calculated to bring relief, report that the committee appreciates the seriousness of the situation and the importance of prompt remedies so far as Congress can give them.

"Your committee regards the chronic deficiency of revenue for the past two years and a half as a most potent cause of the difficulties which the treasury has encountered, and an important factor in the creation and promotion of that serious distrust which has paralyzed business and dangerously shaken confidence even in the financial operations of the Government. It is as impossible for a Government to have a continuous deficiency of revenue for two years and a half without affecting its financial standing as it is for an individual. It is impossible also for a Government to continue in this condition without casting a shadow of doubt and discouragement over all business operations within its borders.

"The serious fact which we are called upon to confront is that in the two and a half years that have elapsed since July 1, 1893, this Government has had an insufficiency of revenue to meet current expenditures amounting in the aggregate to \$133,000,000. And even in the first half of the present fiscal year the deficiency will reach about \$20,000,000 and about \$3,000,000 in this month. With the average of the present time there is no sufficient ground for opining that this insufficiency of revenue will not continue during the remainder of the fiscal year, and how much longer no one can safely predict.

"If the consequences of such a chronic deficiency were only the necessity of borrowing money to meet current expenses in time of peace, even this would afford abundant reason for increasing the revenue. But the consequences are more wide-reaching than that. Insufficiency of revenue has made it necessary to use the redeemed United States legal tender notes to pay current expenditures, and thus to supply additional means to draw gold from the greenback redemption fund—in short, to create the 'endless chain' of which the Secretary of the Treasury complains, and which has made it necessary to sell issue after issue of bonds to replenish the reserve.

"This will be clearly seen when it is remembered that the Secretary of the Treasury has issued and sold a little over \$152,000,000 of ten-year and 4 per cent thirty-year bonds, from which he has realized about \$182,000,000, and after redeeming about \$182,000,000 of United States legal tender notes with the proceeds he has been obliged to immediately pay out \$133,000,000 of these demand notes to meet current expenditures, and thus has furnished \$133,000,000 of governmental demand notes to be again and again used to draw gold from the treasury.

"It is evident that so long as there is insufficient revenue this performance will go on, and bond sale after bond sale will be continued. It is so evident that if there had been a sufficient revenue to redeem the legal tender notes, would not the same have been paid out at once, and there would have been so much the less opportunity to draw gold from the treasury.

"Indeed, there is good reason to believe that if in the first six months of the distrust which inaugurated the run on the redemption fund the treasury had been receiving revenue more than adequate to meet expenditures, so as to temporarily hold the redeemed Government notes, the disposition to present these notes for redemption would soon have been overcome.

"That would have undoubtedly been the case if the redemption fund had been increased in the spring of 1893 and never diminished to fall below the \$100,000,000 minimum mark, and the necessity for more revenue from the point of view of protection of the redemption fund would have been taken away by the fact that we have \$50,000,000 of cash in the treasury in addition to the \$100,000,000 (part gold) required for the redemption fund and the twenty-odd millions required as a working balance. This \$50,000,000 represents \$50,000,000 of redeemed United States legal tender notes

for whose redemption we borrowed \$50,000,000 in gold.

"If we continue to pay them out to meet a deficiency of revenue, then presently they will come back again to draw \$50,000,000 more from the treasury, which we must supply by selling \$50,000,000 more of bonds. The suggestion, therefore, that we need no more, because we have a cash balance of \$50,000,000 of Government notes in the treasury that can be used to pay any deficiency for the next six or twelve months, is in effect a proposition to issue more bonds to meet a deficiency which should be met at once by providing that revenue. In other words, those who oppose raising that revenue in such a situation, in effect—whether they intend to do so or not—favor borrowing in preference to paying as we go along.

"Your committee believes that it is the duty of the House of Representatives, to which body the constitution commits the inauguration of revenue bills, to frame and pass a measure that will yield not far from \$40,000,000—sufficient to put an end to the deficiency—and to do this without any tax, fee, leaving to others whose co-operation is so essential to the success of legislation on the statute-books to meet the responsibility in their own way; and the President's special message, setting forth so pointedly the seriousness of the situation and the necessity for the prompt action, only emphasizes the duty of the House.

"In response to the urgent call of the President, your committee has felt impelled to act with all possible dispatch. Two facts have led your committee to look to an increase of customs duties as the most appropriate source of additional revenue. They are, first, the fact that we are already raising a disproportionate amount from internal revenue, which has already been regarded as a war resort—indeed, Jefferson took the ground that excise taxes should not be resorted to by the Federal Government as sources of revenue in times of peace, and the Democratic National Convention maintained the same doctrine in 1884.

"And, secondly, the fact that by increasing customs duties on imported articles, which we can and ought to produce or make at home, for revenue purposes, we can at the same time incidentally encourage stricken industries and materially aid in turning in our favor the balance of trade, which has been so heavily against us all through this calendar year, and which has caused a demand for gold for export, which our treasury has been called upon to supply. For so long as the balance of trade is against us on account of excessive imports we must export gold, or what is the same thing, promise to pay gold for the excess of imports over the exports.

"Your committee has not undertaken a general revision of the tariff on protection lines, as a majority hope can be done in 1897-98, not only because they know that such tariff legislation would stand no chance of becoming a law, but also because general tariff revision would require many months, and the need is more revenue at once. We believe, however, that this need of more revenue is so great that a simple measure increasing all duties of the dutiable list and taking from the free list of the present tariff a few articles that were always on the dutiable list until August 27, 1894, and which have always been important revenue producers, and limiting the operation of such legislation to about two years and a half—until the present deficiency of revenue is overcome—ought to receive the approval of even those who do not favor protective duties on patriotic grounds; and that the fact that it may incidentally encourage the production of many articles that we require at home instead of abroad will not be regarded as a ground of opposition under present circumstances.

"In framing the bill submitted for your consideration it has been necessary, if action was to be taken promptly, to resort to a considerable extent to a horizontal raise of duties, for the reason that it would have required months to deal with each article separately. Horizontal dealings with tariffs cannot be justified in ordinary times, but if such an exigency as exists now is so serious that the President felt it his duty to send us a special message of extreme urgency, and especially for a limited time, it is not only defensible but is the only alternative.

"But while we have presented in the brief measure reported a horizontal increase of 15 per cent of existing duties on dutiable goods, but two, which is an addition of less than 8 per cent to the average ad valorem rate, giving about \$15,000,000 revenue from that source, yet more than \$25,000,000 of the \$40,000,000 which is estimated this bill will add to our annual revenue will come mainly from wool, which is taken from the free list and given a moderate duty, and from manufactures of wool, which are given a compensatory duty equivalent to the duty on wool (which is always necessary when a duty is placed on wool) in order to give the wool-grower the benefit and make it possible to manufacture woolsens at home.

"The bill reported by your committee proposes to make the duty on imported clothing wool 60 per cent of the duty imposed by the act of 1890, which would give an equivalent of 6.6 of a cent per pound on unwashed wool, or about 40 per cent ad valorem. This reduction from the duty of the act of 1890 has been made because the restoration of the full duty in that act might seem to be too great a change from the present law to those whose co-operation it is necessary to secure in order to have any legislation. It is not a measure of what might be done when all branches of the Government are in harmony with the majority of the House on protection lines.

"The duty on manufactures of wool is increased by a specific duty equivalent to the duty on wool. The duty on carpet wools is left at the 32 per cent ad valorem, where it was placed in 1890. This is a purely revenue duty, as we raise very few carpet wools. Such lumber as was placed on the free list by the act of 1890, without the slightest justification, is restored to the dutiable list, but with a duty of 60 per cent of the duties provided by the act of 1890, giving an equivalent of only about 15 per cent.

"Such a reduction from the lower rates of 1890 is justified only on the ground that the object of your committee has been to frame a bill mainly on revenue grounds, in the hope that it would secure the approval of those in official place whose co-operation is essential to legislation and who may be supposed to feel that in such an exigency as now exists the public necessity must control.

"Believing that such an increase of revenue as is proposed is essential as a first step in the restoration of confidence and the restoration of the treasury to a sound condition, and that other legislation to be proposed to this end cannot be effective without adequate revenue to meet the expenditures of the Government, your committee recommends the passage of the accompanying bill, to temporarily increase revenue to meet the expenses of the Government and provide against a deficiency.

port of the Secretary of the Treasury as relates to the maintenance of the redemption fund and the condition of the Treasury, report that the Secretary of the Treasury now has the authority under the resumption act of 1875 to issue and sell ten-year 5 per cent bonds and thirty-year 4 per cent bonds to maintain the fund for the redemption of United States notes, and that he has sold \$100,000,000 of the former description and about \$2,000,000 of the latter description of bonds in the past two years. As the redemption fund has declined to almost \$60,000,000, the Secretary requests authority to issue a lower rate and shorter term bonds in lieu of the higher rate and longer term bonds, in expectation that at an early date he will be required to sell additional bonds to procure coin for this end.

"The question involved is not whether or not the bonds shall be sold for this purpose. The Secretary announces his intention to avail himself of the authority given by the resumption act and sell the high rate and long term bonds, and the only question is whether it is not clearly for the public interest that he should have authority to sell a lower rate and shorter term bond.

"Your committee thinks it is clearly in the public interest that he should have this authority. In granting this authority, however, we have included in the bill a provision that the proceeds of bonds sold under the act of 1875 and under the bill which is proposed shall be used exclusively for redemption purposes, our object being to secure such a separation of the redemption fund from the ordinary cash in the treasury as will maintain and protect the reserve. We also provide that such bonds shall be offered for sale in such manner as to invite investment among the masses of the people.

"The section of the act reported authorizes the issue of certificates of indebtedness of small denominations, payable in three years and bearing 3 per cent interest, not to exceed \$50,000,000 in the aggregate, to meet temporary deficiencies in the Treasury, and to be used for other purposes. In our judgment the Secretary of the Treasury should always have such authority as this to meet temporary deficiencies that are liable to arise. Unless this authority is given the Secretary will indirectly use the proceeds of bonds sold under the resumption act for redemption purposes to meet the deficiency of the revenue, as he has been doing the past two years and a half.

"Your committee, therefore, recommends the passage of the accompanying bill to maintain and protect the coin redemption fund and to authorize the issue of certificates of indebtedness to meet the temporary deficiency of revenue."

OPPOSE THE BOND BILL.

An Interesting Conference of Republican Representatives.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26.—The conference of Republican representatives who disapprove of the bond bill prepared by the Ways and Means Committee, was well attended to-night notwithstanding the drenching showers which fell previous to the hour of meeting, and which doubtless accounted for the absence of a score of other members who had signed the call.

The forty Republicans present represented twenty-five States. They elected Broderick of Kansas chairman and Colson of Kentucky secretary. The purpose of the conference was to determine a plan of action with regard to the rule which will be reported from the Committee on Rules to-morrow fixing the time and manner in which the bond bill shall pass the House. It has been announced by the Committee on Ways and Means that this measure would be passed to-morrow before the hour of adjournment, presumably with no longer debate than was given to the tariff bill to-day.

This hasty action was manifestly unpopular at the conference. The speeches made by the members showed a unanimous sentiment in opposition to the retirement of the greenbacks. They indicated a belief that the bill in question permits this, and that the amendment which Hopkins of Illinois will try to secure in the Ways and Means Committee to-morrow before the House will not successfully prevent it. The speeches further showed that it was not advisable for the United States to issue bonds in time of peace and that under no circumstances should the greenbacks be retired, at least in the manner proposed.

After a long debate it was decided that the Committee on Rules should be requested to bring in a resolution providing a reasonable time for the discussion of the bond bill and for the offering of amendments.

The committee which was appointed to confer with the Committee on Rules consisted of seven members, of whom Broderick of Kansas is chairman. His associates are Baker of New Hampshire, Bowers of California, Pickler of South Dakota, Milnes of Michigan, Burton of Missouri and Cannon of Utah.

No resolutions of any character were adopted by the conference which had been called simply to secure an expression of views concerning the bond bill and whose action, it was felt, ought not to be binding on any of its members.

VIEWED WITH EXCHANGE.

New York's Produce Exchange Urges Prompt Action.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Dec. 26.—The members of the New York Produce Exchange at a meeting at noon to-day unanimously passed the following resolution: WHEREAS, the members of the New York Produce Exchange view with concern the depletion of the gold reserve of the United States Treasury in distrust of the Government's ability and determination to meet its obligations, tending to gravely injure all business interests and disastrously affect values, therefore,

Resolved, That we strongly urge upon Con-

gress the necessity of taking, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the recent message of President Cleveland, such immediate action at this time as will meet the exigencies of the case and restore public confidence in the financial ability and integrity of our Government, and we appeal to the patriotism of our representatives to see that the action taken is free from political bias or party prejudice, which might endanger its