

THE COUNTRY'S LOSS.

EFFECT OF THE LOW PRICE OF FARM PRODUCTS.

In 1894 Uncle Sam Gained \$20,000,000 Over 1893 on Cattle and Poultry, and Lost \$61,000,000 on Breadstuffs.

Farmers Suffer Most.

How much has the country lost by the low prices of farm products? In speaking of prices, a gentleman remarked a few days since: "I pay now just the same for a five-rib roast of beef that I do for a barrel of flour." His statement was substantially correct, as twenty pounds of choice beef are selling for about the same price as a barrel of the best family flour. The incident is only important as serving to point out and accentuate the fact that provisions have held their prices fairly well, while many products of the farm, such as wheat, cotton and wool, have declined very heavily. It is partly owing to this condition of affairs, too, that on the exports of 1894 the United States gained \$20,000,000 over 1893 on cattle and provisions, and lost \$61,000,000 on breadstuffs.

If we take the same authority which has been accepted in previous years, the United States Agricultural Bureau, for the crop estimates of 1894, we find that if the three great crops of wheat, corn and cotton could have been laid down in New York on the 1st of January, 1895, their aggregate value would have been \$1,178,256,938, against a valuation of \$1,253,187,716 for the crops of 1893, and \$1,544,749,724 for the crops of 1892. This is, of course, an arbitrary standard, but it is probably that the New York price is, upon the whole, as good a standard by which to judge of the relative value of the year's crops as any other that can be adopted.

First, as to prices: The following table, compiled from the reports of the statistical bureau of the Department of Agriculture, will give a record of the average prices for various staples received on farms and plantations since 1888, compiled from the rates ruling on or about Dec. 1 of the respective years:

	Prices of Products on Farms Dec. 1.			
	1888.	1890.	1892.	1894.
Wheat, bu.	1.32	83.8	62.4	49.8
Rye, bu.	59.1	62.9	54.8	50.5
Oats, bu.	27.8	42.4	31.7	32.9
Barley, bu.	59.6	61.8	47.2	44.3
Corn, bu.	34.1	50.6	39.4	45.6
Cotton, lb.	8.5	8.6	8.4	4.9

The corn price, 45.6 cents per bushel, is 63 cents higher than the average price for the decade 1889-89, and is 4 cents higher than the average of the last four years.

The wheat price, 49.8 cents, is the lowest for twenty-five years, and is 33.9 cents lower than the average for the decade 1889-89, and 22.1 cents less than the average for the last four years.

The price of cotton, it will be noticed, is at its very minimum. Discarding for the moment all other elements which enter into the problem—such as the total yield of the crop or the comparative cost of production, and comparing the prices for 1894 with those for 1892 (inasmuch as 1893 was also a year of unusual depression), it appears that, with the exception of corn and oats, prices have declined 20, 30, and even 40 per cent.

That startling variations exist in various estimates of the wheat crop of 1894 we are well aware. The United States Government's last estimate is 460,000,000 bushels, but, in view of the fact that this is 30,000,000 in excess of the Government's preliminary estimate, and that the United States official estimate for last year's crop is believed to have been widely erroneous, we may discard these figures in favor of some of the trade estimates, which run as follows: W. M. Grosvenor, 530,000,000; Liverpool Corn Trade News, 529,000,000; Cincinnati Price Current, 515,000,000; Statisticians Thomas, 563,000,000.

Assuming the estimates of the Corn Trade News for 1892 and 1893, and the conservative figures of Mr. Thoman for 1894, further assuming all wheat of a uniform grade, and all sold on farms about Dec. 1 at the prices quoted in the Government's farm price list, we have the following:

Year.	Crop (bu.) value on farm.	Aggregate
1892	580,000,000	\$361,320,000
1893	475,000,000	247,475,000
1894	502,000,000	250,494,000

This would indicate that, while the aggregate money yield from wheat for 1894 is approximately equal to that for 1892, the loss in money, compared with 1892, is over \$100,000,000; or, more exactly, the loss on the 1894 crop, as compared with that of 1892, is \$111,425,000. Assuming the United States official statement of the 1894 wheat crop—namely, \$225,000,000, the loss, as reckoned on this comparative basis, would be \$136,020,000.

Gain in the Price of Corn.

As a partial offset to this loss there appears to be a gain in the item of corn, where the high price per bushel would seem to net an aggregate sum in excess of that obtained for the crop of 1893. The following table is made on the basis of Mr. Thoman's estimate of the 1894 corn crop and the United States official estimates for 1892 and 1893, and combines with them the Government's farm prices:

Year.	Crop in bu.	on farm.	Total value
1892	1,628,464,000	\$611,614,816	
1893	1,619,496,131	591,116,087	
1894	1,495,945,000	682,606,008	

If the Government's doubtful figures for the crop of 1894 be taken (viz., 1,212,770,000 bushels), the farm value is only \$554,719,000.

The excess in the total market value of last year's crop over that of the previous year appears, according to Mr. Thoman's figures, to amount to over \$80,000,000; or, compared with the yield of two years ago, to over \$40,000,000. The Government's figures would turn these estimated gains into losses of \$45,000,000 and \$87,000,000, respectively. It is worthy of remark, however, that the probable total gain on this item has been very unevenly distributed among the various agricultural sections.

In the South the corn crop has been heavier than in 1893, and has partially offset the loss on cotton, while in some sections of the West, especially Nebraska and Kansas, the corn crop has been an almost total failure, with little compensation from other crops.

Terrible Loss of Life.
The Rio News of Jan. 8, received in the latest mail, gives the particulars of

CONGRESS OF WOMEN.

A SIGNIFICANT GATHERING IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL.

Women from All Spheres, of All Religions and with All Beliefs Assembled in Thousands in a Great Convention—Its Objects and Aims.

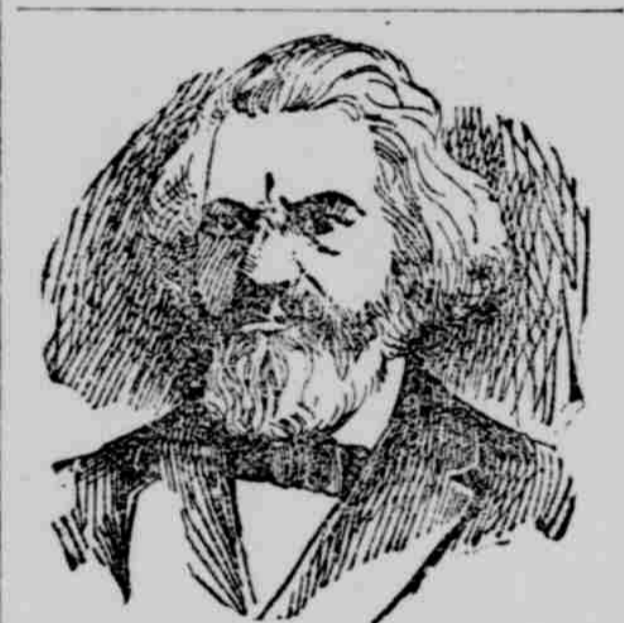
Agree on but One Point.

Washington correspondence.
A national government of, for and by the women of the United States—a Senate, a House of Representatives, a President and possibly a cabinet—such is the scope of the plan of several millions of women of America, who sent representatives to the second triennial convention of the National Council of Women of America, which commenced its session in Washington last week. This government is to be organized, not to legislate, but to deliberate upon national matters, taking its pointers from Congress and hoping to indirectly influence that body in its legislation. This woman's government purposes also to be a school for women against the time when they shall take a

BORN IN SLAVERY.

Career of Frederick Douglass, the Noted Freedman Orator.

Frederick Douglass, the noted freedman, orator and diplomat, who died Wednesday night at his residence in Anacostia, a suburb of Washington, D. C., of heart failure, was born a slave at Tuckahoe, Md., in February, 1817. His mother was a full-blooded African woman; his father a white man, presumably the owner of his mother. He learned to read and write through the favor of a relative of his master-father, and at the age of 15 was permitted to hire his own time, paying \$3 a week, retaining and saving the balance of his earnings with the intention of ultimately purchasing his freedom. His progress was slow, however, and in 1838 he ran away, reaching New Bedford, Mass., in September of that year. He married and lived there for two or three years, supporting himself by day labor on the wharves and in various work shops. While there he changed his name to Douglass. He had previously



FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

been called Lloyds, the name of his old master. William Lloyd Garrison took an interest in the young fugitive, and assisted him in procuring a higher education. He soon developed great talent as an orator, and attracted the attention of leading members of the American Anti-Slavery Society. They employed him as one of their lecturers, and he delivered a course throughout the Northern States, portraying in vivid and forcible language the injustice of American slavery and the African slave trade.

In 1845 he went to England, where his eloquence attracted large audiences and brought him to the notice of many of the prominent anti-slavery agitators of that country. His friends in England raised a purse of £150, which was sent to his former owner, and he received in return his manumission papers, which on more than one occasion in after life served him in good stead when threatened with arrest as a fugitive slave.

During the civil war Douglass was one of President Lincoln's advisers relative to the status of the slaves, and early advised that they be invited to join the Union army against the slave power. Mr. Douglass was twice married, his first wife being colored. His second marriage was to Miss Helen Pitts, a white woman clerk in one of the departments at Washington. He accumulated a competency from the proceeds of his lectures and from the fees of the several offices he held.

RUSH FOR NEW BONDS.

Sale Closed in 20 Minutes in New York and Two Hours in London.

J. Pierpont Morgan, acting for himself and August Belmont, managers of the new government loan syndicate, took just twenty minutes Wednesday to receive and close the bids for the \$62,500,000 new 4 per cent. bonds, says a New York dispatch. The amount allotted to American investors will not be made known for several days. There is, however, good authority for the statement that, in view of the heavy oversubscription in London, a comparatively small portion of the issue will be allotted in this country, as it will suit the purposes of the syndicate to dispose of the bulk of the loan abroad in the interest of the agreement with the government to maintain the cash gold reserve. A premium of 16½ was bid for the new bonds in this market. Under the terms of the agreement between the bond syndicate and the government, some \$2,500,000 was to have been deposited with the treasury for the home account, the rest of the gold required to pay for the bonds having to come from abroad. That amount of gold had been deposited with the treasury Wednesday morning. In the afternoon Mr. Morgan made a deposit of \$1,123,000 gold at the sub-treasury, taking in exchange therefor legal tenders. This action was probably taken to further instill confidence in the financial stability of the treasury, and is in line with the policy of the syndicate to hold the gold reserve at the full limit.

In London, N. M. Rothschild & Son said that the new American loan had proved a colossal success. The amount of the loan allotted to Europe was covered many times over in two hours, both with them and with J. P. Morgan & Co.

Alexander Cruden, the compiler of the Bible Concordance, was regarded by all his acquaintance as a harmless though somewhat troublesome lunatic.

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MAY WRIGHT SEWALL, President.

hand with men in the nation's real business; to illustrate to womanhood the true meaning of national deliberation, legislation and administration.

To this the greatest gathering of women



WOMAN BRAVES THE CONGRESSIONAL LIONS IN THEIR DENS.

which the world has ever seen have come representatives from every walk of life, from every religion and every belief, and every part of the country. There are Protestants and Catholics, Jews and Gentiles, Mormons and Agnostics, Vivisectionists and anti-Vivisectionists, Republicans and Democrats, Populists, Socialists, Tillmanites, Free Silverites, Farmers' Alliancemen, Grangers, Single Taxers, Nationalists and Prohibitionists. Scarcely any two delegates agree perfectly excepting upon one point, and that is the elevation and amelioration of woman-kind.

Nearly fifty different societies are represented, including those of a national scope, such as the National Women's Christian Temperance Union, and those which are more of a local character. Seventeen of the societies thus represented have an aggregate membership of nearly 5,000,000, and the total representation is probably little under 10,000,000. The organization of a woman's government, patterned after the national government of the United States, is one of the questions which will come up before this session of the National Council, which will continue two weeks. It will simply be a rearrangement of the National Council as it is at



FRANCES E. BAGLEY, Vice President.

present. Its objects are set forth as follows: "We, women of the United States,

sincerely believing that the best good of our homes and nation will be advanced by our own greater unity of thought, sympathy and purpose, and that an organized movement of women will best conserve the highest good of the family and the state, do hereby band ourselves together



FRANCES E. WILLARD.

in a confederation of workers committed to the overthrow of all forms of ignorance and injustice, and to the application of the golden rule to society, custom and law."

The Officers of the Council.

The president of the National Council is the same Mrs. May Wright Sewall who was the moving spirit of the Women's Congress at the World's Fair, assisted by the other officers of the council. Mrs. Frances E. Bagley, the vice-president, is a rich and prominent society leader of Detroit. Mrs. Isabella Charles Davis, the recording secretary, is the best-known of the council's officers, for she is the business manager and one of the founders of the International Order of the King's Daughters and Sons, which has a strength of more than 350,000. The treasurer of the council is Lillian M. N. Stevens, of Stroudwater, Me., and has become prominent through her work for the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. One of the most interesting of the council's officers is Mrs. Richard Foster Avery, the corresponding secretary. She had a prominent part in the organization of the Women's Congress at the World's Fair, and in many other ways her name has become well-known.

Behind the Board of Officers come the four great standing committees, who are supposed to represent the four most important fields of modern feminine thought. The first is on dress, of which Frances E. Russell, of St. Paul, Minn., is chairman, and which also includes the New York

to extend the ramifications of the central body.

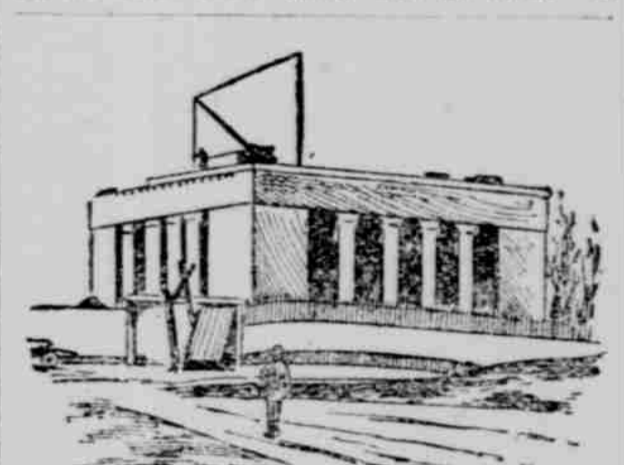
Many women of national and even international reputation are in attendance. Some of them are the Countess of Aberdeen, Lady Henry Somerset, Mrs. Russell Sage, Miss Susan B. Anthony, Mrs. Eliza both B. Granis, well known in connection with the social purity crusade in New York city; Dr. Jennie de la M. Lozier, the New York physician; Mrs. Laura C. Bulard, of Brooklyn, the millionaire; the female minister of the gospel, Rev. Anna Shaw; Miss Frances E. Willard, Mrs. French Sheldon, the African explorer, and Mme. Albert, the Delsartian. Organizations of women in Germany, France, England, Canada and elsewhere are also present.

"The greatest value of the council," says President Sewall, "is in bringing together women whose lives are in different avenues and whose interests are in different lines of work."

HIS TOMB DESERTED.

Work on the Grant Monument Has Been Stopped for the Winter.

The work of building the Grant monument in New York has been stopped for the winter, and the unfinished tomb looks as dreary and deserted as the temporary mausoleum near by. The cold, gray pile is covered with snow, and it is impossible to continue setting the great blocks of granite until the spring weather again drives the frost from the ground. It



PRESENT CONDITION OF THE MONUMENT.

was intended to put in place the double row of detached columns in front and to complete the porch before the work was suspended, but the cold weather came earlier than was expected and the men were laid off before this was done. The monument, however, has progressed well and is much further on toward completion than is generally supposed.

The foundations, which are sunk down twenty-seven feet in the ground, have been finished, and the main structure has

Work of the Legislatures.

The little Delaware Legislature continues to ballot fruitlessly for United States Senator. Delaware is a very wee State, but her statesmen are very big and obstinate and the contest is likely to run through spring and summer.—Minneapolis Journal.

The New Jersey Legislature has been in session more than six weeks and has enacted only a dozen laws. The excellence of the work of a legislature, like that in a game of baseball, can usually be estimated on the inverse ratio of the number of scores made.—St. Paul Globe.

The Kansas Legislature is right—a bill to suppress the buttermilk industry is not only unwise but it is unconstitutional. It is not only unconstitutional in Kansas, but it is unconstitutional in any State where it would be unconstitutional to legislate buttermaking, wheat growing or any other useful industry out of existence.—Kansas City Journal.

Thumbscrew Civilization.

What makes the affair particularly loathsome is the pretensions of the inquisitors to lofty Christianity.—Chicago Post.

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Li Restored to Power.

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The Napoleonic Revival.
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One of the results of the Napoleonic revival in literature in New York city is a "Napoleonic tea" given by fashionable ladies. At least it gave them something to think about and perhaps taught them incidentally some facts in history—for instance, who Napoleon was and what he did.—Indianapolis Journal.

PULSE of the PRESS

Fred Douglass.

The negro has lost an able champion.—Cincinnati Gazette.

To his influence is due much of the progress which so many colored people have achieved.—Indianapolis Journal.

He was one of those self-made characters that have made America's history illustrious.—Rochester Democrat.

What a commentary is the career of Frederick Douglass upon the institution of slavery!—New York Advertiser.

The death of Frederick Douglass removes from the stage one of the most picturesque figures of his day.—Memphis Commercial.

Born a negro slave, he won freedom, distinction and widespread influence by his own efforts and his own abilities.—New York World.

We do not recall that the honesty of his motives was ever doubted, or that he ever failed of any task assumed or any duty imposed upon him.—Indianapolis News.

If a list were to be made of the Americans who have done the greatest service to large numbers of their fellow-citizens the name of Frederick Douglass would have a high place upon it.—Buffalo Express.

Kaiser Wilhelm's Poems.

Perhaps the translator has not been able to bring out the beauties of Emperor William's compositions.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Emperor William has taken to writing poetry. He has what the vulgar would call a "vinch" on the publishers.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Emperor William, Germany's erst war lord, having turned poet and composer, illustrates the power of music to soothe the savage breast.—New York Telegram.

Kaiser William is not going to let Premier Crispi do all the phrasing. The Italian skeptic having called the people to the defense of "God, King, and Country," the Prussian calls his nobles to the defense of "Religion, Morality and Order." It is probable that the German war lord, Berlin style, understands by the first the acceptance of the theory of divine right; by second, military obedience; by the third, absolute trust in the great and only "Me."—New York Evening Sun.

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