DEATH WAS SUDDEN.

EX-SPEAKER CRISP DIES FROM HEART DISEASE.

Twice Presiding Officer of the National House of Representatives, and Long a Leader of the Democratic Party—Would Have Been Elected Senator from Georgia Had He Lived.

Death of Ex-Speaker Crisp.

ATLANTA, Ga., Oct. 24.—Charles F. Crisp, the ex-Speaker of the House of Representatives, died here this afternoon very suddenly and unexpectedly. He had long been troubled with heart disease, but had not recently been in bad health.

Charles Frederick Crisp was born in Sheffield, England, January 29, 1845, while his parents were on a theatrical trip abroad, both being actors. He obtained his education in the Georgia public schools and served in the Confederate army from the outbreak of the rebellion till he was made a prisoner of war in 1864. At the close of the war he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1866, and in 1872 was appointed solicitor general of the Southwestern judicial district of Georgia. In 1877 he was appointed judge of the superior court, which position he filled for several years. In 1882 he resigned to go to Congress.

The principal work done by Mr. Crisp during his first term in Congress, which went for nothing at the time, was to apply himself most diligently to acquiring an extended knowledge of the business of the House.

At the opening of the Forty-ninth Congress Mr. Crisp was assigned to the second place on the committee on Pacific railroads and to the third place on the committee on commerce. His capacity for hard work may be judged from the fact that he made during this Congress forty-six reports from the commerce committee, three from the Pacific railroads committee and five conference reports. The most important of these was the conference report on the interstate commerce bill, which finally became a law.

Mr. Crisp was chosen Speaker of the Fifty-second Congress after such a long and rather animated contest with aspirants of his own party in caucus that the election was not made until after the House's session began. When the Fifty-third Congress convened he was re-elected without opposition. Mr. Crisp was as cool and collected as Mr. Reed. Generally he spoke in a low tone save when in a burst of eloquence he drew a peroration. When the Speaker ruled against him he would, if an arguing chance existed, differ with the Speaker, and appeal from the decision of the chair. His points of order he made clearly and forcibly, but calmly. He did not storm at the Speaker. He did not raise his voice in anger. But with all his nerves well in hand, he would wait until the hubbub subsided and the crowd around him, resentful of the arbitrary rulings of the Speaker, had quieted down, and then, like a judge charging a jury and equally unimpassioned, he would make his point. Mr. Reed often sought to taunt Mr. Crisp into anger, but the sarcasm of the Maine man, which had proved too much for so many other Democrats, produced no appreciable effect on the Georgian.

Mr. Crisp's death was not altogether a surprise in political circles, for he had had several spells of illness in Washington. He suffered from asthma, and later from heart trouble. His ill health, however, did not become a matter of public notoriety until last spring, when he was compelled to abandon a series of joint debates arranged with ex-Secretary Hoke Smith because of the advice of his physician that it would imperil his life for him to continue the debate, which had attracted state as well as national interest, by reason of the fact that it involved the position of the Democratic party of the state on the silver question, as well as the senatorship from Georgia, for which the ex-speaker was an active candidate. The silver men won their fight, and Mr. Crisp, had he lived, would have been the next senator from Georgia.

JONES FOR CONCESSION.

He Advises Giving Away to Georgia Populists.

ATLANTA, Ga., Oct. 24.—It is learned here on what is believed to be unimpeachable authority that fusion was agreed on at Chicago yesterday between Senator Jones and Populist Committeeman Washburne, and as a result Washburne left Chicago for Nashville and H. W. Reed left Atlanta last night for the same place, where they will meet Mr. Watson.

Senator Jones wired his representative here in substance as follows: "We must accede to the demands of the Populists for fusion in Georgia."

The reply was: "The Populists of Georgia don't want fusion; they demand a surrender."

To this Senator Jones responded: "If these are the facts, use your own judgment."

It appears from this that a general plan of fusion satisfactory to the Populists has been agreed on between Washburne and Jones and that Georgia alone stands in the way of consummation.

British Papers for Mr. Olney.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—Sir Julian Pauncefote, British ambassador, called at the State department to-day for the purpose of presenting to Secretary Olney certain propositions regarding the Venezuelan controversy, but this being Cabinet day, the two had only ten minutes conference.

Fort Smith Jail Birds Escape.

FORT SMITH, Ark., Oct. 24.—Nine Indian territory criminals, nearly all charged with robbery, escaped from the United States jail last night by removing bricks connecting with the cells from which the Smith boys, the Cureta train robbers, had made a hole in the roof.

Editor Edward W. Bok Married.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Oct. 24.—Editor Edward W. Bok of the Ladies' Home Journal and Miss Mary Louise, daughter of Cyrus Curtis, proprietor of the publication, were married at the Curtis home in Jenkintown.

HANNA ON COERCION.

Official Statement in Relation to Certain Charges.

CHICAGO, Oct. 24.—Chairman Hanna of the Republican national committee has issued the following official statement in relation to the frequent charges that workingmen are being coerced:

"The manifest policy of the silver Democratic managers in this campaign, as set forth by their candidate for President, shortly after his nomination, has been to create the belief in the minds of the workingmen that they were being coerced by their employers to vote contrary to their convictions. The chairman of their national committee, Hon. James K. Jones, has emphasized this policy in a proclamation in which he boldly charges the employing classes of the country with having entered into a conspiracy to coerce their employes into voting contrary to their opinions. This is a very grave charge, and it has now assumed a form that justifies giving it some attention. It is an insult, both to employer and employe.

"We do not believe that one is despotic enough to attempt to coerce, or that the other is so cringing as to be coerced. Employers and employes are all free American citizens, knowing their rights and capable of maintaining them.

"To coerce a voter is a crime against the laws of the land, and if Messrs. Bryan and Jones knew of coercion they made themselves accomplices of the criminals by not informing the proper authorities and taking steps for prosecution. It has been the policy of the Republican party since its organization to protect every citizen in the exercise of his elective franchise, and it will adhere to that policy.

"While we consider the charge absurd, and believe that American workingmen and employers are too independent and patriotic either to be coerced or to coerce, the Republican national committee will do anything in its power to protect workingmen in the free and untrammeled exercise of their rights as citizens and will cheerfully unite with the national Democratic committee in any movement having that object in view.

"Coercion of voters is not only an un-American, unpatriotic and despotic usurpation of the rights of a free citizen, but it is a wrong that will inevitably recoil upon its perpetrators. It is an arbitrary use of power that is in direct conflict with the principles of our government. The civil compact of majority rule means free majorities, for whose protection all constitutional powers should be used, and without which a political victory would be barren of results worthy of a great party. This committee will spare no pains to secure to every citizen, whatever his politics, the right to cast his vote according to his own convictions and to have his vote honestly counted.

M. A. HANNA."

BRYAN'S ILLINOIS TOUR.

Eighteen Places on the List for the First Day—Mr. Cannon Quoted.

MATTOON, Ill., Oct. 24.—Mr. Bryan began his great tour of Illinois to-day and he will spend the next eight days in the state. Eighteen places were down on his itinerary for to-day and a few more will undoubtedly be added before night.

Danville was the first stop of the morning, and from a stand near the court house Mr. Bryan spoke to a large assemblage. He said that he did not come to talk to those who believed in free silver, but wanted to appeal to those who up to this time had been afraid of the results of free coinage. After saying that he could prove the benefits of free silver by Republican testimony, he quoted from the speech made by Congressman Cannon in the house of representatives in 1878.

A twenty minutes' stop was made at Paris and there Mr. Bryan condemned the money changers. The audience included many farmers.

At Charleston a gaily decorated platform on wheels was at the station and after Mr. Bryan and his party had ascended it 200 men drew it to a vacant lot, where Mr. Bryan addressed a large crowd of farmers for a quarter of an hour.

Another Crusade Feared.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Oct. 24.—The tax irades issued Wednesday in connection with the recent purchase of arms, have resulted in a condition of affairs which is regarded as very grave. The ministers were opposed to the poll tax imposed on the Mussulmans, but the palace officials insisted that the measure was necessary for the defense of Mussulman religion on the ground that the Christians were preparing to attack the Mussulmans, and the European press was preaching a crusade against Islam.

Mr. Wilson May Become a Judge.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—There is considerable speculaton here as to the successor of the late Chief Justice Richardson of the United States court of claims. The idea seems to be that the president will appoint a Southern Democrat because the remaining four judges are Northern men and Republicans and a name spoken frequently is that of Postmaster General Wilson.

L. A. Coquard Bankrupt.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 24.—L. A. Coquard, stock and bond broker, assigned shortly before noon to-day. He gives his assets at $100,000. It is not stated what the liabilities are, but it is said his business is heavily involved. It is claimed that during the last six months he has lost heavily in wheat and stocks, the total amount for which he has been squeezed being estimated at $200,000.

No Fusion in Tennessee.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Oct. 23.—The state Democratic executive committee yesterday brought the correspondence between the Populist and Democratic committee concerning fusion propositions to a close by refusing the Populist demands, which were for four Populist presidential electors and one Populist congressional candidate.

Yale, 16—Wesleyan, 0.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Oct. 23.—Yale defeated Wesleyan in a hard fought game of two twenty-minute halves by the score of 16 to 0.

TALK OF CANDIDATES.

BRYAN AND M'KINLEY BOTH KEPT BUSY.

The Former in His Tour Through Indiana—Large Gatherings Greet the Candidate—McKinley Talks to the Farmers—Protection Held to be Necessary for Their Prosperity.

Bryan's Tour in Indiana.

ROCHESTER, Ind., Oct. 23.—The Indiana committee evidently does not intend to allow Mr. Bryan to keep very far behind the record as a speech maker on this trip through Hoosierdom. Nineteen speeches were made in twenty-four hours ending at midnight last night and to-day seventeen are on the list, and there will probably be more.

The first speech of the morning was at Decatur, shortly after 8 o'clock. Several thousand people listened to Mr. Bryan for more than a quarter of an hour. The crowd was made up of the most part of farmers, and Mr. Bryan told them that the farmers of no country had ever indorsed the gold standard, and called attention to the meeting of agriculturists some time ago in Buda Pesth, where bimetallism was indorsed and greetings were sent to the bimetallists of America. He quoted from the address of Prince Bismarck to the farmers a year ago, in which he said that the farmers must stand together and protect themselves from the drones of society who produced nothing but laws.

Markel was not down on the bills for a speech, but a stop was made there and Mr. Bryan spoke for five minutes.

Mr. Bryan was taken from the car to a stand at Huntington and he spoke to a crowd which numbered up into the thousands and which was evidently more to his way of thinking than some of the crowds of yesterday.

The people of Laketon had telegraphed that a crowd had gathered there and a stop was made just long enough for Mr. Bryan to greet the people and shake hands with those nearest him.

The public square in front of the court house at Rochester was well filled when Mr. Bryan arrived there. In his speech he quoted from the Indiana Republican platform of six years ago and referred to the message of ex-President Harrison of Dec. 1890. He said in part: "I want to address my remarks to the Republicans who may be present. I want to show the Republicans who are here to-day that the Republican party has deserted the position which it has occupied and has changed its policy in attemyting to change the convictions of the Republicans who supported it when it was supporting bimetallism. In that platform they commend the action of Congress on the silver question. In that platform they point to the action of the Democrats who voted for demonetization and denounced those Democrats, and yet to-day, when we stand in the same position that they stood and we stood after demonetization, the Republicans of Indiana are asked to declare that that is a good thing which they denounced six years ago. I want you to remember that in that platform they declared that silver legislation had increased the value of silver, and yet when we ask to increase the value of silver they say it can't increase the value of silver by law.

"President Harrison in a message sent to congress on the first of December, 1890, pointed to the silver legislation of 1890 and gave it credit for the advance in the value of silver and said that the advance in the value made increasing prosperity among the people. And, lest some protectionist should attribute the prosperity to the protective tariff, Mr. Harrison declared that it was not due to the tariff law known as the McKinley bill, but was due to the silver law that added $54,000,000 a year to the currency of this country. And yet the same ex-President Harrison, who in his message declared that increasing prosperity came because of the increasing volume of the currency is to-day defending the Republican party in its attempt to decrease the currency and destroy the prosperity of the country. You will notice that your platform of 1890 praised the addition of $54,000,000 of money to the currency and yet the statistics of the Treasury department show that we have in actual circulation $150,000,000 less this year than we had two years ago and in spite of the decreasing currency the Republican party proposes no plan by which that currency may be increased. I want to ask you Republicans who rejoiced at the addition of $54,000,000 a year in 1890, why you have changed your minds and rejoice at a decrease in the currency in 1896. I do not believe that the rank and file of the Republican party will turn as quickly as the Republican managers turned. I do not believe that the plain people of the Republican party are going to change their convictions just because the money changers got hold of the Republican convention or wrote a platform suited to Wall street and England instead of the platform in favor of the American people."

McKinley Talks to Agriculturists.

CANTON, Ohio, Oct. 23.—This morning a large delegation of farmers from about Creston were the first callers. Mr. McKinley spoke to them in part as follows: "We cannot by legislation in this country make values; we cannot by any legerdemain on finance make something out of nothing. The only way to get wealth is by labor, and anybody who teaches any other doctrine is a false teacher and not the friend of American citizenship or our American homes. There is no way of creating wealth by the mere breath of Congress. Congress can do a good many things, but it cannot make you rich or the country rich by debasing the money of the country, and it cannot make the country rich by giving us dollars that are only worth 52 cents each and stamping them dollars. Now, Congress can help the country, but it must be by wise legislation, caring for the producer, the laborer, the farms and the manufactures of our own people, by protecting them against the products of people living in other lands.

"If you are a farmer, what you want first is good crops. Legislation cannot help you to them. You know in order to get good crops you have to sow, and then you must have God's sunshine and rain, and a cheap dollar will never help your crops any. You have, then, to work just as hard for a good as for a poor crop. Now, if you have a good crop, then you want a good market. You have that in the United States if you are let alone, but if somebody's product can come in here and displace yours, then your market is not so good. Is not that right? This is all there is to that question. There is a question which our 70,000,000 of American freemen should settle by their ballots. It is shall our country protect American interests and promote American development against the outside world?

"Now, when you have a good market and sell your wheat or corn you want to be paid in good money, don't you? You older men around me will remember the period when you sold your wheat and were paid in State bank money, which was good on the day you received it, but just as likely as not on the next day you discovered that this value had depreciated and it was not worth anything, and so all your labor was lost. Well now, the best thing for the farmer, after his good crops and his good market is good money, and when you give full four pecks for a bushel and sell your wheat by the full bushel you want to be paid in dollars that are fully worth 100 cents each, not only to-day, but everyday and everywhere. This is what the Republican party stands for this year—those two things above all others, but the Republican party does not stand alone for them. The greater part of the Democratic party, the great leaders of the old Democratic party, are one with us in the struggle for national honor and prosperity."

KILLED BY A BOMB.

Believed to be the Work of an Anarchist.

NEW YORK, Oct. 23.—Hamlin J. Andrus, secrrtary of the Arlington Chemical works, located on Palisade avenue, Yonkers, was instantly killed yesterday morning by a dynamite bomb which, the police think, was placed there for the purpose of destroying life and property. The body of the victim was frightfully mangled by the explosion, and death must have come instantly.

Hamlin Andrus was a man of wealth, and he lived in Yonkers in handsome style with his family. He left his home in company with his son, Hiram, aged 20 years, a little before 8 o'clock, and they went to the factory together. It was a few minutes after 8 o'clock when the explosion occurred. It shook the factory building and was accompanied by the sound of crashing glass and a volume of smoke.

A wild rush was made by the factory employes to the office. They were headed by young Andrus. He found the floor of that portion of the office building occupied by his father covered with glass, mortar and broken furniture. In one corner of the room he saw the bleeding body of his father, partly covered with the debris. It was in a terribly mangled condition. Imbedded in the flesh of the dead man were found several pieces of cast iron. Other pieces, corresponding to these, were found in the office. They were carefully placed together and, although all the pieces were not found, there were enough of them to show that the bomb, or machine, that exploded was a piece of cast iron pipe, about six inches in length by one and one-half inches in diameter. Fastened to either end of this piece of pipe was a cap, which was screwed on. The odor and smoke indicated that the explosive was either dynamite or giant powder.

So far no motive has been disclosed for the murder. Information of a startling character was received by the police, which may aid in the solution of the mystery.

It was to the effect that the bomb was intended for John F. Andrus, brother of the dead man, a several times millionaire. John F. Andrus did not appear at the office of the Chemical company, as was his custom. On learning of the explosion and the death of his brother he hurried to the police station and communicated with Captain Mangin. To the captain he said that the explosion of the bomb might have been the work of anarchists, and offered an explanation for his belief. About three weeks ago, he said, he was walking along Wall street, New York, when he was accosted by a rather seedy looking individual, who took him by the arm and said: "Mr. Andrus, you are a very wealthy man. You have too much money, and I am one of a number of people who believe that you ought to distribute at least one-third of what you have among the poor. You will either do this, or there will be a way found of compelling you to do it."

Andrus, according to his story, paid little attention to the man at the time.

Up to the present time no arrests have been made.

WATSON'S NAME STAYS ON

Kansas Supreme Court Issues the Mandamus Asked for by Breidenthal.

TOPEKA, Kan., Oct. 23.—The supreme court yesterday afternoon issued a peremptory writ of mandamus to compel Secretary of State W. C. Edwards to certify the name of Thomas E. Watson to the county clerks of the State as a candidate for vice president on the Populist ticket.

The court held that as Watson's name was not certified to the secretary of state as that of a candidate to be voted for by the people, but solely to be added to the party appellation, the secretary had no right to refuse to certify it to the county clerks for publication on the official ballot. The opinion in the case will be written by Chief Justice Martin, Mr. Justice Allen concurring.

Mr. Justice Johnson will write a dissenting opinion, holding that the addition of the appellation to the Populist party is intended to deceive the voters. Secretary Edwards was served with the writ last night and his office force was promptly set at work mailing notices to the county clerks to have Watson's name printed on the Populist ticket along with that of Mr. Bryan.

Morrison Bolts Bryan.

CHICAGO, Oct. 23.—Hon. William R. Morrison, chairman of the inter-state commerce commission, for years a member of Congress and a life-long Democrat, has bolted Governor Altgeld and the Chicago platform and nominee.

POLITICS IN COURT.

THE WATSON CASE HEARD JUDICIALLY.

The Attorneys' Arguments on Both Sides—A Suggestion of Delay in Behalf of the Opposition Not Entertained—Clemens, Godard and Judge Horton Opposing Counsel.

Watson's Case in Court.

TOPEKA, Kan., Oct. 22.—The application of Populist State Chairman John W. Breidenthal for a writ of mandamus to compel Secretary of State Edwards to place the name of Thomas E. Watson on the official ballot as the candidate of the People's party for Vice President was heard before the Supreme court this forenoon. The argument began at 9 o'clock and lasted until nearly noon. Breidenthal was represented by G. C. Clemens and Secretary of State Edwards by Assistant Attorney General Goddard and ex-Chief Justice Albert H. Horton.

Secretary Edwards filed an answer to Breidenthal's petition, setting out that he had decided not to put Watson's name on the official ballot as the candidate of the People's party for reasons as follows: First, he had been advised Saturday, October 17, by affidavit filed by Abe Steinberger, that Watson wanted his name withdrawn from the Abilene ticket; second, on Monday, October 19, he had received Watson's affidavit of withdrawal; third, the two sets of electors are identical and all are democrats, and they would not vote for Watson; fourth, the supreme court has no authority to interfere in the matter.

After the papers in the case had been read, Mr. Godard asked for more time for preparation. He said Mr. Edwards had not been served with notice of the case until Monday afternoon, and the one day that had elapsed since had not been sufficient time for proper preparation. There were some questions of fact in Mr. Edward's answer which would require time to prove, unless the other side should admit them to be true. He suggested that the hearing be postponed until the next regular session of the court, that is to say until the day before the election.

After an informal discussion of the status of the case, Mr. Clemens proceeded with his argument, going exhaustively into the case. He claimed that Mr. Edwards had no right to act on Steinberger's affidavit October 17, and that on the 19th, when Watson's affidavit finally arrived, it was, under the terms of the law, too late to make any more changes or alterations of any ticket on the ballot. He also claimed that the affidavit sent by Watson had not been properly verified, it not having, in addition to the jurat of the verifying officers, the great seal of the State of Georgia. He also referred to the fusion compact by the terms of which Watson or Sewall was to get the Kansas electors according to the relative number of electoral votes the two candidates might have in the electoral college without Kansas. He said this compact was a complete refutation of Edwards' allegation that the Abilene ticket was intended to mislead voters.

Judge Horton said that if the facts alleged in Mr. Edwards' answer were not admitted, time should be given to him to furnish evidence on the subject. He said it was generally known that at least one of the fusion electors, Morris Gliggett, would never vote for Watson. Even Watson alleged that the Abilene ticket was a fraud. He had been in Kansas for the purpose of investigating the matter, and he had since declared in his speeches that the Abilene ticket was made for the purpose of deceiving voters. More recently he had verified his statements by an affidavit, and that affidavit was now in this court. Watson was unwilling to permit the use of his name to impose a fraud upon the people.

Mr. Clemens replied briefly and the court took up a couple of local cases which seek to compel County Clerk McCabe to put the names of Holliday and Keith on the official ballot as legislature candidates. This argument concluded, the court adjourned for dinner.

CALDWELL ON COERCION.

The United States Circuit Judge Declares Himself.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Oct. 22.—Judge Caldwell of the United States circuit court, defining the relations of receivers of railways to the employes, says:

"It will not be necessary for employes of corporations under federal receiverships over which I have any control to vote for McKinley or Bryan or any other candidate for a political office in order to hold their places.

"I would order an investigation of a complaint that an employe of the court had been discharged for political reasons; and if the complaint, upon investigation, appeared well founded, I would at once order the dismissal of every receiver, general manager or other officer or employe of the court having anything to do with discharging or threatening to discharge employes for political reasons."

DEFAULTER KILLS HIMSELF

W. T. Rambusch, the Juneau, Wis., Banker, Dead in Virginia.

JUNEAU, Wis., Oct. 22.—A dispatch was received here last night from the coroner of Fredericksburg, Va., stating that W. T. Rambusch, the absconding banker of this city, had committed suicide there. He disappeared on October 10, and forgeries amounting to between $300,000 and $500,000 are charged to him.

ILLINOIS DAY AT CANTON.

Special Trains From All Parts of the State Carry Hosts to See McKinley.

CANTON, Ohio, Oct. 22.—Ideal weather prevailed for Illinois day with Major McKinley. The visitors came from all parts of the state and over all the railroads and at noon not nearly all of the trains announced for the day had arrived. The first to arrive was a party from Pike county, whose car was a part of a regular Pennsylvania train. A special train of seven coaches followed, bringing a delegation from Paris and vicinity.

TEXAS MISREPRESENTED.

An Atlanta Doctor Who Told a Fish Story About the Drought.

Tyler, Smith County, Tex., Oct. 6.—(To The News.)—The Atlanta Journal of September 30 last contained an interview with a certain doctor of that city on the condition of Texas, her crops and people, that demands a reply from some person with more information than the doctor. The large headlines to the article are "The Wolf in Texas." "An Atlanta Man From the Lone Star State Describes the Dread Prospects of Poverty." "Doctor—— Interviewed." He tells how the fearful drought "burned the earth up and destroyed the ground's fertility."

The Atlanta doctor is unknown to me and perhaps to Texas people. If he was better known maybe this reply would be needless. But assume that he did travel in Texas and that he did see the worst drought in parts of this state since the year 1851, still the statements are far from being correct. In his extended tour through the West he tells a sorrowful tale of the condition of the crops of the West, and especially in the state of Texas. The doctor relates only one exception to bad crops, "and that is from Helena, Ark., up to Southern Mississippi." And there the land will make "from half a bale to a bale of cotton to the acre and from thirty-five to seventy-five bushels of wheat to the acre." This must be an enchanted land, a marvelous paradise for the farmer "From Helena, Ark., to Southern Mississippi." Kansas, Nebraska and the Dakotas are far away from the real wheat country and do a little business in comparison with the doctor's golden grain land "from Helena, Ark., up to Southern Mississippi."

The doctor says no rain fell in Texas since May 1, and in some sections no rain since April to the day of his interview, September 30, 1896. Suppose the weather reports were drawn on the doctor and they showed rainfalls since April of two inches, four inches and as high as seven inches at one dropping in large areas of Texas. The picture drawn by the doctor is a "sorrowful tale" of woe and distress, such as would choke off every man who dreamed of cheap lands and a comfortable home in Texas. Listen to his mournful weepings for the miserable people of this state: "Much cotton that was planted has never come up. There has not been enough moisture to generate the seed." He proceeds: "Corn is almost a total failure this year;" that the "little half-grown stalks that have dried up in the summer sun rustle mournfully in the wind that sweeps across the barren waste." The Georgia doctor when interviewed must have been in a sad state of mind.

These statements were published as if they were based on facts in a reputable journal in the largest city in the great state of Georgia as coming from an "Atlanta man." Now, what do the people of Texas think of such statements? What do the people of Georgia think of them? And what do the people "from Helena, Ark., up to Southern Mississippi" think of them? The best test of such assertions, perhaps, is the price that the staple productions of Texas bring in an open market. At the city of Tyler, about the geographical center of Eastern Texas, where the Cotton Belt Railroad crosses the International & Great Northern Railroad, is in the midst of the drought-stricken area, and I will submit the prices at retail here to-day of some of the leading staple productions of this section of the state, viz.: Cotton, best grades, 7 cents; corn in shuck, 40 cents; hay, best quality, $10 per ton; dry salt bacon and clear sides, 5 cents and 6 cents; corn fed pork on foot, 3 cents; prime beef, 1¾ cents; flour, per barrel, $4 to $5; October peaches, 60c per bushel; fall apples, large, 75 cents to $1 per bushel. These prices could not exist if these articles had not been made here. The fact is that Texas has an abundance of feed for man and beast, notwithstanding a severe drought for Texas occurred this past season. This state will still make more cotton than any other state in the Union. No one can safely estimate the cotton crop yet, as the fields are green, and the plant is loaded in many parts of the state with growing bolls that with late frost will mature into good cotton.

I give one example of a farmer in Smith county this year. I sold him fifty acres of land, unimproved, in 1895 for $250. He moved on it in 1896, cleared twenty-six acres and fenced it, built a three-room house and outhouses and cultivated eighteen acres cotton and eight acres corn, all with his own labor. Yesterday he reported he had five bales of cotton picked and that he would likely get two more and had 250 bushels of corn. Or at the price above now ruling, if he makes six bales of cotton he will have for his crop $310 cash, and in this "dreadful year" pay for his home and have $60 left. If a one-horse farmer can buy a home in the woods and pay for it in one year in such a severe drought, what may he not do in all the lifetime of good years? Texas is the best poor man's country, all things considered, on this account, and those who seek a good country and a comfortable home should not be driven from their purpose by the "sorrowful tale" of the sensationalist. Respectfully,

W. S. HERNDON.

(Dallas News, Oct. 9, 1896.)

Col. W. S. Herndon, ex-member of Congress from Texas, is probably as well equipped for giving accurate information concerning Texas as any of her citizens.

We are also informed that present indications point to a heavy top crop owing to the average high temperature in September, and seasonable and abundant rains, and experts estimate the Texas cotton crop at 2,500,000 bales.