



MEMORIAL,

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled:

The undersigned, citizens of the United States, would respectfully represent: That the business of option selling and the selling of products which have no existence is a great and growing evil, and a menace to the prosperity of the American farmer:

That these option sales, and offerings, are prodigious, and exceed the entire products of the articles dealt in many thousand times:

That it is not unusual for as much wheat to be sold in a day as there is of actual wheat received in a year: That these enormous sales of products which have no real existence have the same tendency to reduce values of actual products as would an over production of those articles, if such over production were possible:

That the losses inflicted upon the agriculturists of the country by these sales are enormous, and are placed by the most competent and best informed men at from \$100,000,000 to \$150,000,000 per annum. That the effect of these option sales is to reduce the value of all grain, cotton and swine grown, by more than ten per cent:

That the sum of ten per cent on the value of these products would be an enormous factor in the restoration of prosperity to the American farmer:

That these option sales, or sales of products which have no existence, and are never delivered or intended to be delivered, are not in any manner necessary to the sale or marketing of actual products—that the system contravenes honest business principles and methods, and is used to enable idle speculators and traders to absorb the profits of others without labor to themselves—that it is opposed to the commercial genius and spirit of the age, and not in harmony with Christian progress and civilization, as it tends to make the masses the unwilling servitors of the classes, and to unjustly deprive producers of the fruits of honest industry.

Your memorialists would further respectfully represent that the depression of the value of farm products from these enormous sales of products which have no existence must necessarily result in a corresponding depression of the value of farming lands in the United States, and is thus doubly an injury to all engaged in agricultural pursuits.

That there are no means of ascertaining the exact loss in value in agricultural lands, but that a reduction of ten per cent on the lands devoted to the production of corn, wheat, rye, oats, barley and buckwheat for 1888 would amount to the gross sum of \$438,843,000; and that the same per cent of loss on the hay and pasture lands for the same year would amount to \$154,367,612, or a total of \$593,210,612:

That your memorialists have no doubt that these estimates are largely within the sum of the actual loss from the cause named.

Your memorialists would also further respectfully represent, that the business of option selling is of the nature of gambling; that it is demoralizing in its tendencies, and that it does not produce a benefit to the class engaged in it at all comparable to the injury it inflicts upon the agricultural classes and the community at large.

Your memorialists therefore respectfully pray that you will pass into law what is known as the Butterworth bill, for the prevention of such option dealing, or that you will in your wisdom devise some preventative measure equally as effective as said Butterworth bill.

And your memorialists will ever pray, etc.

NAME. | POST OFFICE

NEW TREATIES SIGNED.

Germany, Austria and Italy Form a Commercial Union.

THE CHINESE REBELLION.

Eleven Hundred Rebels Slain by Government Troops—Storms on the English and French Coasts—A Sensation at Sofia.

ROME, Dec. 8.—The new commercial treaties between Italy, Germany and Austria have been signed.

The German and Austrian commercial treaty has been signed at Vienna. The remaining treaties will be signed during the coming week. They were discussed by the Bundesrath. Minister Von Boettcher presided. There is no doubt that the reichstag will ratify the treaties. America will derive the greatest advantage from it. The Boersen Courier says that the duty on corn will be reduced from 30 to 25 shillings per ton. America's favored nations position depends upon the Clay treaty of 1829. Russia, excluded by the favored nation clause, will be adversely affected by the new treaties and will be virtually compelled to make overtures to Germany to prevent the total exclusion of Russian grain from the German market.

The customs treaty between Germany and Austria is a strongly anti-French document. The duties, as far as possible, are heavily increased on everything coming from France. The treaty runs until 1900 unless either party gives notice of withdrawal.

The required amount of cash and lands has been raised to secure the bicycle factory, and Kearney citizens are jubilant over the result. The matter now only awaits the closing of the contract between the representatives of other powers, which is expected to be completed in a few days to close the deal.

W. L. Morse, school director in Grant township, was arrested at Kearney on the charge of building himself a fine barn with lumber left from a school house and making a profit of \$3 a ton on coal bought for the district. The whole neighborhood is stirred up and most of the township's population were witnesses in the trial.

A petition has gone in to the management of the Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley railway for better service on the Creighton branch and another is being circulated which will be sent to the superintendent of railway mail service at Chicago. The officials of the road were up over the branch and they claim it would cost them too much to put on a passenger train.

A decision was handed down by District Judge Norris, in the writ of error in the Dakota county seat contest case. The judge holds that the action of the county commissioners in calling an election, although somewhat irregular, was final and they were sustained. The plaintiff, Dakota City, excepts to the finding and the supercedas bond was fixed at \$250, which was immediately given and the case appealed to the supreme court.

The camping meeting of the Methodist church for the north Nebraska conference held a meeting in Fremont. After considerable discussion it was decided that the usual annual camping meeting held on the grounds at Fremont will be abandoned this year. The combined energies of the camping meeting and the Central Chautauqua association will be devoted to making a success of the session of the Chautauqua, which is to be held from July 1 to 15.

CHINESE INSURGENTS DEFEATED.

Eleven Hundred Rebels Slain by Government Troops. LONDON, Dec. 8.—The Chronicle's Shanghai correspondent reports that the rebels have met a complete and crushing defeat.

The report has been confirmed. Eleven hundred rebels were slaughtered on the field, and those which were overtaken and captured were immediately executed. Martial law has been proclaimed throughout Manchuria.

Important Insurance Decision. LONDON, Dec. 8.—The judges of the court of appeals decided that the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Assurance association is liable for the payment of a policy for \$10,000 on the life of James McBrick, who was poisoned by his wife, provided the latter does not benefit by the payment. This is an important decision and affects companies throughout the world.

One Communion Cup for Each. CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 8.—A novel method of administering the holy communion was inaugurated at the Scoville Avenue Methodist Episcopal church. Instead of having one communion cup, seventy-two were used, and it is intended to provide one cup for every communicant. The reason given by the pastor for making the change is that it is in accordance with politeness and sound sanitary laws.

Antigo, Wis., Badly Scorched. MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 8.—The most disastrous fire in years visited Antigo, Wis., causing a loss of about \$60,000. The Antigo Republican, Strasser's merchandise store, Dee Wootte's stationery store, in which were the city records, and the Masonic hall, were totally destroyed.

Wreck on Lake Michigan. MANISTEE, Mich., Dec. 8.—The big steamer Silka, with coal for Chicago, ran on Big Point Sable. She is valued at \$95,000.

They Meet With a Cordial Reception at Santa Fe, N. M. SANTA FE, Dec. 8.—Dr. P. L. Chappelle, the newly consecrated coadjutor to the bishop of Santa Fe, reached here accompanied by Archbishop O. P. Salpointe, Archbishop Riordan of San Francisco, Bishop Matz of Denver and Bishop Bourge of Arizona. They traveled in the private car of Mr. R. C. Kerns of St. Louis, and were accompanied from that city by Foster J. Wade and Eugene W. Handlan. A procession of 3,000 people, headed by the citizens' reception committee, met them at the depot and escorted them to the archiepiscopal residence. Governor Prince delivered the address of welcome and, following a public reception, the guests were banqueted at the Palace hotel.

Governor Merriam's Appeal. ST. PAUL, Dec. 8.—Governor Merriam has issued a circular letter, many thousand copies of which were mailed through the state, setting forth the terrible destitution which exists in Russia, and asking that the people who are blessed with homes, goods and money, and who can look forward to continued prosperity, will do what lies in their power to mitigate the terrible sufferings of those starving Russians. The governor appoints a committee of well known citizens to receive donations of flour, wheat, potatoes, rye and other breadstuffs. It is suggested that cash donations be sent to the metropolitan papers and the country press is urged to give the subject wide attention.

A CROOKED INSTITUTION.

Sensational Developments in the Standard Investment Company's Failure at St. Paul.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 8.—A month ago Bushnell & Bushnell, real estate dealers of this city, failed for half a million dollars. They operated under the name of the Standard Investment company, as well as under the designation of Bushnell & Bushnell. They had dealings with investors all over the country. About ten days ago the Bushnell brothers, William M. and A. R., disappeared, and their whereabouts is now unknown. It has transpired that they were swindlers of the worst class. For example, only a few hours before their failure was announced they accepted \$1,700 from a Hastings (Minn.) widow for investment. If it were possible to realize anything like the face value of the assets set forth in the schedule there would be some money in sight. This, however, is entirely out of the question. The values are fictitious in numberless instances.

For instance, property at Inner Grove is listed at figures beyond those obtainable for improved lots in the residence part of St. Paul. It is tolerable certain that not more than 10 per cent of the face value will be realized on this property. Immediately after the assignment the Bushnells stated that the immediate cause of the failure was the garnishment of deposits in certain banks. At that time the firm's bank accounts were overdrawn, except in one bank, where a balance of \$10 remained. There are not wanting evidences of absolute thieving by these former financial lights and church and social leaders of St. Paul.

Mrs. Hattie B. Cole of California made the firm her agents and deposited with them a large sum. After the collapse this lady supposed the mortgage still in the hands of the firm, as she had been regularly forwarded the interest due on it. Now it develops that the mortgage was cancelled a year ago and the proceeds used to cover up the rottenness of the institution. The worst feature of the affair is that the heaviest losers are poor St. Paul people. The St. Paul Trust company, assignee, is making all efforts to get matters into something like order, but it will be at least three months before the exact condition of the concern can be announced. Another questionable piece of financing was the platting of an addition to St. Paul. This they labelled "Summit Park addition." The value of these lots is placed low enough, but heavy mortgages, representing \$1,500 on each lot were placed on them by the firm, and then negotiated with eastern parties. These are only instances of the methods of the Bushnells. Their entire career has apparently been fraudulent.

Iowa Traveling Men. DES MOINES, Dec. 8.—At the meeting of the Iowa state traveling men, President W. F. Mitchell of Des Moines, and Secretary F. E. Haley of the same place were re-elected for the ensuing year. The membership increased during the last year from 900 to 2,500. It is not thought to have included the whole United States. Nine hundred Chicago traveling men and several hundred from New York are members of the association for the insurance feature.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS. Secretary Foster is reported to be a litte better, the fever having somewhat subsided. He is now resting easier.

The United States supreme court has postponed scoring in Fielden and Schwab's case, the Chicago anarchists, until the second Monday in January.

Thirty-four persons were killed and many injured in a railroad collision near Calcutta. The trains in collision were mail trains. All the Europeans who were passengers on either train escaped death.

The women of Madison, Kan., a short time ago raided a liquor selling druggist's establishment and demolished it. They have been threatened with prosecution, and have applied to the governor of the state for some blank pardons, to be used in the event of their conviction.

CRISP IS THEIR CHOICE.

Selected as the Democratic Candidate for the House Speakership.

A HOTLY CONTESTED RACE.

Mills of Texas Made a Gallant Run but Was Beaten at the Finish—How the Struggle Was Conducted—Thirty Ballots Taken.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The Democratic caucus, after two hours recess, was called to order at 8 o'clock and balloting proceeded with. Change followed change in the twenty-third ballot which witnessed the first withdrawal of a candidate, Mr. Hatch. Mr. Cobb of Missouri started the break in Mr. Mills' reduced ranks by voting for Mr. Mills and he was followed by Mr. Dearmond of Missouri, who also cast his ballot for the Texan. Mr. Hatch was hastily summoned to the



CHARLES FREDERICK CRISP.

hall of the house, where he announced his withdrawal and cast his vote for Judge Crisp. This action on the part of Mr. Hatch was received with great cheering by the Crisp men. Messrs. Burns and Wilson of Missouri (Hatch men) followed the example of their leader and voted for Crisp. Mr. Wheeler of Alabama changed his vote from Crisp to Mills, but when the Hatch men went to the Georgian he came back into the Crisp fold. Another change was made in this ballot—Shively of Indiana and Stout of Michigan, who had supported Springer, going over to Crisp, making the twenty-third ballot stand: Crisp 100, Mills 94, Springer 18, McMillin 16, Stevens 1, total 227.

Twenty-eighth ballot: Crisp 103, Mills 96, Springer 8, McMillin 16, Stevens 1, Babbit of Wisconsin changed from Springer to Mills on the twenty-eighth ballot. There was one absentee on this ballot. Capehart of West Virginia, a Mills man, did not vote, being sick.

Stahlnesker of New York deserted Mills for Crisp on the twenty-ninth ballot. This was the only change on the twenty-ninth. Crisp now had 104.

At the end of the twenty-ninth ballot and before the thirtieth was begun McMillin entered the caucus and withdrew, but did not express any preference. The twenty-ninth ballot resulted: Crisp 104, Mills 94, Springer 8, McMillin 18 Stevens 1.

Crisp Nominated. The final vote, the thirtieth, was: Crisp 119, Mills 105, Springer 4. Crisp was nominated by Springer throwing his votes to him.

Ex-Representative Voder of Ohio was nominated for sergeant-at-arms of the house.

Ex-Representative Turner of New York was nominated for door-keeper of the house.

Dalton of Indiana was nominated for postmaster by a small majority and Mr. Millburn for chaplain by acclamation.

CONGRESSIONAL.

House. WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—When the house met at noon Holman nominated Crisp for speaker. Henderson of Illinois nominated Thomas B. Reed and Jerry Simpson named Watson of Georgia. The house then proceeded to ballot.

Crisp was elected speaker, receiving 236 votes against Reed's 84 and Watson's 8.

Senate. In the senate the vice president laid before that body several reports, memorials and communications. At 12:30 the senate took a recess until 2 p. m. The contests from Florida and Idaho came up, but Messrs. Call and Dubois from those states were respectively sworn in. The understanding being that the case of the contestants is not prejudiced thereby.

The Democratic Committee.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The executive committee of the national Democratic committee decided to call a meeting of the full committee at Washington, Jan. 21, to decide on the time and place for holding the national convention.

No Show for Free Coinage.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—A morning paper (Republican) states that, on the responsibility of the Republican United States senate, it is able to announce that a bill providing for the free and unlimited coinage of silver can not pass the Fifty-second congress over the veto of President Harrison. The paper affirms that it has made a poll of the entire congress, and the result announced above is based on replies from 280 members of the United States senate and house of representatives.

The Southern Pacific Trouble Settled. HOUSTON, Tex., Dec. 8.—The grievances between the Southern Pacific and its conductors and brakemen have been amicably adjusted.

Duke Hubbard, colored, was assassinated at a dance near Franklin, Tex. A number of negroes, among them Hubbard, were gambling contrary to law, and took oath to kill whoever of the party should divulge the names of the guilty. The party was arrested and Hubbard made a confession. Frank Abbey was selected by lots to kill the confessor and did so by firing on him through a crack in the door. The registers at the time election in a bar will sue the city for 30 cents an hour for their work under the eight-hour law.

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FOR 1892.

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