MILLS' TARIFF SPEECH.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—At one o'clock the House went into a committee of the whole, Springer, of Illinois, in the chair, for consideration of the tariff bill. No opposition was made to Mills' motion to this effect.

Mills began his speech by saying that the great increase of duties made during the war had been, at the time they were made, stated to be only temporary, yet a quarter of a century later these duties were higher than they were during the war, and they now averaged 47 per cent on imports. An income tax had been imposed to meet the war expenses; it was gone. It was a tax on wealth, and the $72,000,000 annually realized from that source was swept away; but the war tax on clothing, on food, on implements of labor remained, and a war was still being prosecuted against the people, a fiscal war, exhausting in its demands, and every effort to remove or lower that taxation had been resisted and defeated.

There had been a tax on railroads, but it was gone. It had not lived long after the war. It had been a tax on wealth. It was said to have been oppressive to tax the wealthy. There had been a tax on insurance companies; it was gone. There had been a tax on bank deposits and bank capital; it was gone. Three hundred millions that had been paid by the wealth of the country had been swept away, and the burden of taxation had been made heavier, as it had been loaded upon the shoulders of those who had to support themselves and the government. Was a tax of three per cent to be paid out of the pockets of the manufacturers of blankets a weight more enormous than a tax of 79 per cent paid by the consumer on imported and domestic products? Was a tax of three per cent on incomes more oppressive than a tax of 100 per cent on women's and children's dress goods? Yet all these taxes on wealth had gone, and the gentlemen of the minority boasted that they had reduced taxes to the amount of $360,000,000, while the democratic party had reduced it only a bagatelle. That was a splended column these gentlemen had erected. All the tax on wealth had passed away, and all the burdens had been laid upon the shoulders of the laboring man. In 1883 taxation had been still further reduced and the magnificent shaft which the party then in power had erected to commemorate its legislative wisdom and the beneficence of its laws was crowned with the capstone taking off the internal revenue stamp on playing cards, and putting a tax of 20 per cent on bibles.

The democrats had been taunted with the charge that they had failed to reduce taxation. This charge had been guilty of preventing action on many bills brought to the House by the committee on ways and means.

Mills turned his attention to woolen manufacturers, and urged that the public at large was injured by the present excessive tariff, and nobody benefitted. High duties prohibited and limited importations and exportations. We were feeding the people of Europe, and when we put high duty on the goods they sent us in exchange for food, it amounted to taxing our own agricultural exports. Reduction of duties would not, as has been asserted, check the manufactures and cramp labor. We always imported more goods when prices were high. Under lower duties we would export more goods, manufactories would run steadily and labor would be constantly employed. Not more than 10 per cent of the goods consumed in the United States would be imported if all the custom houses were gone and the government was supported by direct taxes. Protectionists agree that manufactured articles were cheaper here than in other countries, as a result of protection. It was not so, but supposing that it was, why, then, should they resist so strenuously any effort to lower duties, if they were able to undersell the European manufacturers?

Did the manufacturers pay higher wages because protection enabled him to do so? No. Jay Gould was able to pay his bootblack $500, but he did not do it. He paid the market price; he paid his nickle like a little man. Higher wages were made by coal, steam and machinery, and higher wages meant lower cost of production. This accounted for the fact that free trade England paid higher wages than protection Germany and France, and yet controlled the world's market. He had requested the present chief of the labor bureau to ascertain if there were any exception to the rule that wages depended on the efficiency of labor, and the result of highly paid efficient labor, was the low cost of the product. In answer, he read a tabulated statement prepared by Mr. Wright, giving the result of the inquiry in a number of cases, which appeared to fully bear out the rule.

Mills then proceeded with frequent citations from economic authors, and from tabulated statements, to elucidate his argument that the higher rate of wages in this country was not the result of the protective system. We had grown rich, prosperous and powerful—not by the aid of restrictions on foreign commerce, but in spite of them. He quoted tables to show that the tariff was not intended to benefit the laborer; that the benefits of the tariff pass into the pockets of the manufacturers, and never come to the pocket of the laborer. Taking up the case of a pair of blankets, where the tariff exceeded the labor cost by $1.52, Mills declared that every dollar of the excess was reaped by the manufacturers.

Crain, of Texas, interrupted to ask how the ways and means committee had treated those blankets.

Mills replied that it had reduced the tariff from $1.77 to 71 cents. [Applause.]

Continuing, he said it was asserted that Congress had intended to benefit the laborer by the tariff. It had failed, and not a dollar of the protection afforded got beyond the the manufacturer. He, however, hired his labor at the lowest rate, in the open market. The committee had left in the bill more than enough protection to pay for all labor, and a bonus besides. The present policy was making a vast discrimination in the country between the two classes—one poor and numerous; one small, powerful and rich. Concentration of the wealth of the country in the hands of a few men would overthrow the government.

In conclusion he said the bill was a very moderate one, yet it would send comfort and happiness into all the homes of the poor laboring people of the country; and he asked the House, in behalf of these people, to consider their claims and help reduce the burden that had been loaded upon them. Mills spoke about an hour and three-quarters, and as he took his seat he was surrounded by a crowd of Democratic members who pressed forward to congratulate.

Facts About Oregon.

The annual salmon catch on the Columbia river for the past eight years has maintained an average of 1,407,000, representing a value of more than $2,000,000. The exportations to Great Britain absorb five-eighths of the annual yield.

In 1881, 10,560,000 feet of lumber were exported from the Columbia river mills and nearly 21,000,000 feet from other mills on the west coast of Oregon. San Francisco absorbed the bulk of this, but much of it was shipped to Hongkong and Australia.

The wool of the same year amounted to over 8,000,000 pounds, which 1,500,000 pounds were consumed by the woolen mills of Oregon and the balance exported.

Hops to the amount of 7,641 bales, and flaxseed to the amount of nearly 4,000,000 pounds, (grown mostly in Eastern Oregon) were also exported in 1881.

Oregon can scarcely be counted among the mining states, though the product of gold in 1881 amounted to $1,140,931, of silver $48,684, and of pig-iron 8,000 tons.

In 1882 the cattle in the state numbered 271,848 head, the horses and mules 113,384 head, and the sheep 1,007,591 head. The value of property in the state in 1882 exceeded ninety-two million dollars. Oregon has a range of mountains, the coronet caps embracing Hood, Jefferson, Diamond Peak, Three Sisters' and others. Mt. Hood is 11,025 feet high, and the view from its summit spreads a vision of all Oregon, from the Blue mountains to the sea.

Abe Lizard is a candidate for office in Missouri. He may prove a blizzard to his opponent.—Canyon City News.

Abe's opponent is Sike Loan. A race for official preference between a [illegible] and cyclone will make [illegible] safest. [illegible] quite a breeze [illegible] been [illegible] the cou[illegible] cheered.

OUR READING DESK.

To our reading desk has been added the following:

One of the most extraordinary literary enterprises of the age is the work which bears the title of "Alden's Manifold Cyclopedia of Knowledge and Language."

The specimen pages which the publisher sends free to any applicant, show the type which is used—a good, clear-faced brevier; also the form, "Ideal" for convenience, easy for the eye, and handy to hold.

There will be several thousand illustrations—no "mere pictures," but everything of importance that will serve to explain the text.

The Manifold Cyclopedia is much more than a "Cyclopedia of Universal Knowledge;" it embodies also a Dictionary of the English Language—including every word which has just claim to a place in the language. How often you have consulted Appleton's, Chamber's or Johnson's Cyclopedia and failed to find the title you were looking for—then consulted Webster's Unabridged and were successful; the word belonged to the dictionary rather than to the cyclopedia. Or you have consulted Webster, and found little more than a mere definition of the word—you must go to the cyclopedia for details of knowledge. Or, more probable than either of these suppositions, you do not own either a first-class cyclopedia or a first-class dictionary, or only one of the two, because of their prohibitory cost, so you "consult your imagination" and "go hungry" for lack of the few lines of print that would satisfy you! In the Manifold Cyclopedia you will find a survey of all knowledge which is illustrated by the English language, and the cost is hardly more than commonly charged for a dictionary alone.

Editorial talent second to none in America, in EXPERIENCE and SKILL is engaged in the conduct of the work; the publisher's past experience in cyclopedia making (notably in The Library of Universal Knowledge, now known—trebled in price—as the International Cyclopedia) is good basis for the pledge he makes to his patrons that The Manifold shall be inferior to no other cyclopedia in any of the important qualities of a popular guide to knowledge. Specimen pages free, or a specimen volume may be ordered and returned if not wanted; 50 cents per volume for cloth, 65 cents for half Morocco binding; postage 10c. extra. JOHN B. ALDEN, Publisher, 393 Pearl Street, New York.

The issue of Literature, Alden's illustrated weekly magazine, bearing date April 21, contains a full reprint of the rather remarkable paper on international copyright, recently published by Senator Chace, of Rhode Island, together with an extended and somewhat spicy review of the same by Mr. Alden. Senator Chace, being chairman of the committee which has charge of the bill now before the Senate, is naturally the one of all others to be looked to as an authority, and his paper on the question is an able, and even brilliant one. Mr. Alden is not antagonistic to the measure, but is in hearty sympathy with the copyright movement; he undertakes, however, "in the name of the American people," to resent the charge so commonly made, and by Senator Chace stated in the strongest terms, that the publishers, buyers and readers of cheap editions of Dickens and Tennyson, for instance, are "pirates" or "thieves," or "receivers of stolen goods." The case, according to Mr. Alden, is able to stand on honest and common-sense ground, even better than on a false and libelous basis. People who are interested to see the merits of a live topic presented in a novel and vigorous way from from different standpoints, will be glad to send a postal card for a free specimen copy; and a good many of them, when they receive it and see what a bright, entertaining and wonderfully cheap magazine it is, will be glad to send $1.00 and get it regularly during the year. John B. Alden, Publisher, 393 Pearl Street, New York; 218 Clark Street, Chicago.

The current issue of The Library Magazine presents the extraordinary number of 224 pages, in large type, handsomely printed (and all for 10c., or $1.00 a year!), the papers being as important in character as they are remarkable in quantity, including one on the Constitution of United States, by Hon. E. J. Phelps, United States Minister to Great Britian; a brilliant paper on the Mammoth and the Flood, from the London Quarterly Review; the Higher Education of Women, from the Westminster; Islam and Christianity in India, from the Contemporary; Mr. Ruskin and His Work, from the Edinburgh, The Struggle for Existence, by T. H. Huxley; Shakspeare or Bacon? by Sir Theodore Martin; Mystical Pessimism in Russia, by N. Tsakni; English and American Federalism, by C. R. Lowell; The Extraordinary Condition of Corsica, by Charles Sumner Maine; The Balance of Naval Power in Europe, from Blackwood's; one of a series of papers on Post-Talmudic Literature, by Dr. Bernard Pick; The Christian Element in English Poetry; by M. V. B. Knox; besides several other important articles, and the editorial department of Current Thought, which embodies brief extracts from notable articles in American and foreign periodicals. John B. Alden, Publisher, 393 Pearl Street, New York; 218 Clark Street, Chicago.

Novel in name, form, purpose and method is The Novelist, Alden's new weekly magazine of American fiction. It undertakes to give the worthiest fiction that AMERICAN authors can be tempted to produce. Foreign authors not admitted. It is not sentimental talk about justice to American authors, but is bold, practical action. It is certainly handy in form, beautiful in dress, excellent in all mechanical qualities, and low in price; well suited in all respects to meet the wants of the intelligent millions who are capable of appreciating "the best"—it will not stoop to compete with the "gutter-fiction" of the sensational periodicals and libraries. Terms, $1.00 a year, at which rate it will give over 2,500 pages, equal to from 8 to 12 ordinary American dollar novels. The stories will follow successively, one at a time, a novel of ordinary length thus being completed in from 4 to 8 weeks. If one story does not please, you will not have long to wait for the next. For a 10 ct. subscription (if you don't wish to enter for all at $1.00) you will receive the first chapters of every story published during the year, which you can then order separately, if you wish. A specimen copy of The Novelist will be sent free on request. Address John B. Alden, Publisher, 393 Pearl Street, New York; P. O. Box 1227.

LITERATURE, an Illustrated Weekly Magazine ($1.00 a year), has certainly successfully taken the field as the popular literary journal of America. Its great variety of contents, handy form, and choice illustrations, make it exceedingly attractive. Foremost American authors are among its contributors. Mrs. Susan E. Wallace, wife of the author of "Ben Hur," and quite as charming a writer as her husband, has papers in two current issues on "The Poetry and Music of the Arabs." For specimen copy (free) address John B. Alden, Publisher, 393 Pearl St., New York; P. O. Box 1227.

"THE Resources of the State of Oregon—A book of statistical information treating upon Oregon as a whole and by counties, it being an appendix to the annual report for 1887 to the governor, collated and prepared by the state board of agriculture, by direction of the legislative assembly of Oregon."

The above is the title page of an 8x12 inch 130-page pamphlet, advance sheets of which is just received. An edition of 20,000 will be issued in accordance with legislative act, approved Feb. 20, 1885, and is gotten up for the purpose of benefitting the agricultural and other interests of Oregon, and encourage immigration. We give room to a few extracts having reference to East Oregon, and hope to be able to furnish a complete review of the work in a number of THE HERALD for readers to send to their friends in the East.

THE Baker City Bedrock Democrat draws the following contrast between Wm. Ramsey, the democratic candidate for circuit judge of the 6th judicial district, and J. A. Fee, his republican opponent:

Mr. Ramsey has resided in this state more than 40 years. Mr. Fee, his opponent, has been in the state only about 3 years.

Mr. Ramsey has been in the active practice of the law more than 19 years. Mr. Fee has been at the bar 3 or 4 years.

Mr. Ramsey has, during the last 9 years, argued as many cases in the supreme court as any one man. Mr. Fee has never argued a single case before the supreme court.

Mr. Ramsey is a lawyer of experience and maturity. Mr. Fee is a beginner—a mere tyro in the land.

Mr. Ramsey has a good reputation as a lawyer throughout the state. Mr. Fee has not.

It requires no prophet to predict which of these gentlemen will be elected. It is too plain a case for any doubt.

Gov. Pennoyer's Speech.

The speech delivered at Pendleton the other day by Gov. Pennoyer was a master stroke of statesmanship, in which he surpassed all his previous efforts. It was free from all demagogism, presenting only facts and figures in their broadest sense, and so plain that any one can read and understand. The speech should be put in the hands of every voter in Oregon, who may see how this government has been run when in the interest of moneid corporations for the last quarter of a century, and that this present administration proposes to bring it back to first principles. Governor Pennoyer's speech will make a good presidential campaign document, and I doubt not it will be used as such throughout the country. Some of the republican papers call him a crank, but the country would be better off if it had a few more such cranks. Governor Pennoyer has made himself a record by his speech which will show to the country that Oregon has a statesman of no mean calibre.—East Oregonian.

ABOUT the most unanswerable retort to the claim which is made that revenue reform means reduced wages for the laborer is that made by an Irishman, to whom a mill owner said: "Pat, don't you vote the democratic ticket. If that party wins, your wages will be reduced." "Divil trust ye now," exclaimed Pat. "If that's so, ye'd vote it yourself!"—Ex.

A VOTE for a republican candidate for the legislature is a vote for Dolph for U. S. senator. A vote for Dolph is a vote against the opening of the Columbia river to navigation. This is a more important question to the people of Oregon just now than any question of party.—East Oregonian.