

## THE LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY NEWSPAPER IN CAROLINA DAILY.

### THE BOND BILL DEBATE

**DEMOCRATS AND POPULISTS ARE UNITED IN THEIR OPPOSITION.**

### REPUBLICANS ALSO OUT OF LINE

**Eleven of Them Kick Over the Traces on the Adoption of the Rule Against the Introduction of Amendments to the Bill—Reed and his Gang Extend the Time for Debate Till To-day at 3 O'clock, When the Bill Will Probably be Railroaded Through.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The House today entered upon the consideration of the bond bill, which, in conjunction with the tariff bill passed yesterday, constitute the relief which the Republican House of Representatives offers the Democratic Executive to meet the existing financial situation.

The bill aroused the united opposition of the Democrats and Populists, the gold Democrats being arrayed against it because they claim it did not give the Secretary the authority to issue gold bonds with which he desired to replenish the reserve, and the silver Democrats, on the ground of their general opposition to bond issues. The latter contended that the raids on the Treasury could be stopped if the Secretary would use his discretion to redeem notes in silver when the reserve was threatened.

In the Republican ranks, also, there developed such bitter opposition to the bill, as originally drawn, and to the proposition to force the bill to a vote to-day, that the Republican members of the committee on Ways and Means incorporated in it an amendment especially declaring that nothing in the act should be construed as a modification or repeal of the act of 1878 for the re-issuance of the greenbacks when redeemed, and the committee on Rules extended the limit of debate until to-morrow at 3 o'clock, but declined to give the members of the House opportunity to offer amendments.

These concessions probably brought a few of the fractious Republicans into line, how many the vote to-morrow will show.

But eleven Republicans went over the party traces to-day on the adoption of the rule. This, it is stated, does not represent more than one-fourth of the opposition to the measure itself.

The feature of the day was a strong speech from Mr. Johnson, (Republican, California) appealing to his Republican colleagues to vote against the bill. He scored the Republican leaders for bringing in the bill. He said he had voted for the revenue measure yesterday under protest, but he refused to follow them on the present bill. Political expediency, which involved a surrender of principle, he declared, would never succeed. "The debate ran far into the night."

Mr. Henderson, (Republican Iowa) from the committee on Rules then presented the rule for the consideration of the bond bill. It provided for debate until 10 o'clock to-night, with a recess from five until 8 and its continuance to-morrow until 3 o'clock, when a vote should be taken without intervening motion or amendment separately.

Mr. Crisp, (Democrat, Georgia) took the floor in opposition to the adoption of the rule. He admitted that nothing he would say would have any effect but he thought if gentlemen on the other side would consider what had been done and what was to be done they would make haste a little more slowly. Yesterday a general tariff bill, the exact effect of which on particular industries and on the revenues, no one knew, had been rushed through the House. To-day it had been proposed to put through a bond bill in the same summary manner. But the murmurings of discontent on the other side had forced the autocrat of the House and the "so-called leaders" to yield a little more time. He admonished the other side that it was only by resistance that they could obtain their rights.

Mr. Bailey, (Democrat, Texas) said yesterday with four hours debate a bill which would burden the people with \$40,000,000 of additional taxes was passed. To-day the reformance was to be repeated but this time posterity was to be saddled with an interest bearing debt of which no one knew how many millions. The country he said would no more tolerate precipitate haste than it would inexcusable delay.

When the twenty minutes allowed the Democratic side had been consumed Mr. Henderson, who was in charge of the rule, rather surprised the House by declining to make any reply to the criticisms from the other side. He demanded a vote on the adoption of the rule which was taken by yeas and nays. The rule was adopted 195-101. It was not a strict party vote. The Populists voted with the Democrats against its adoption and the following Republicans voted in opposition to the majority of their party: Baker, N. H.; Connelly, Ill.; Dayton, W. Va.; Huling, W. Va.; Kirkpatrick, Kansas; Linney, North Carolina; McCormick, New York; Shafroth, Colorado; Pearson, N. C.; Mondell, Wyoming and Miller, Kansas.

The bond bill was then laid before the House and Mr. Dingley opened the debate in favor of its adoption and explained the bill. As a plain business proposition the Secretary should have the power to float 3 per cent bonds. It also provided that these bonds should first be offered to the people of the United States and Mr. Dingley expressed no doubt that the people from the Atlantic to the Pacific

would respond and over subscribe any issue advertised for.

Mr. Dingley stated that nothing in this act should be construed to repeal or modify the act of 1878 for the re-issuance of redeemed greenbacks.

"What will become of the greenbacks redeemed by the sale of bonds under this act?" asked Mr. Marsh (Rep., Illinois).

"They will be used," replied Mr. Dingley, "as they were used up to 1893, in discharging our interest bearing obligations. But in case of a run on the treasury they could be held in the treasury temporarily for its protection. When the exigency passed, however, they would under this act have to be paid out or applied to the public debt."

Mr. Dingley, in answer to many questions, claimed that a 3 per cent bond would be taken by the people much more quickly than a 4 per cent bond on a 3 per cent basis. He said the people, as a rule, were not disposed to pay premiums.

Mr. Turner (Dem., Dakota) opened for the minority. He contended that the fault did not lie in any deficiency in the revenues, but in the existence of evils in our financial system for which the Democratic party was in no wise responsible. He pointed out how the Republicans, in the past, had demoralized silver and had passed an act for the resumption of specie payments which contemplated the total retirement of the greenbacks. Now, in the face of the Presidential election, they sought to curry favor with the silver sentiment and they dared not retire the greenbacks, to which they had only been committed.

Mr. Turner affirmed most positively that in the existing state of the market 3 per cent coin bonds could not be floated. In conclusion, he said he had once believed that the Secretary of the Treasury, by exercising the option of redemption in silver, could redress the situation on the treasury, but he now believed such a course would precipitate a crisis, a panic, a convulsion, such as we had never had, that would shake public and private credit to its foundations.

Mr. Grosvenor (Republican, Ohio), said that the disability of the passage of the bill must be considered in the light of the events which called it into existence. Under ordinary circumstances he would not favor either section of the bill. The Democrats were unable to suggest relief for the Treasury. The President had proposed a gold bond, but in the last Congress could not muster half of the Democratic vote to stand by him. The Secretary of the Treasury was figuring how to meet the appropriations of the last Congress. A bureau officer, a pestiferous growth, that had dared to set aside the five million appropriation for the relief of sugar growers, Debs and his followers, to suppress whom the military was called out, had no more flagrantly violated the law than had the Secretary of Agriculture, a petty bureau officer, in refusing to carry out the appropriations of Congress after he had been rebuked by Congress. Yet Democrats said there was no lack of money in the Treasury. But he said he was willing to vote for this bill to save the Administration from bankruptcy and disgrace, because he believed that administration stood his country.

Mr. Patterson (Democrat, Tenn.), attributed the financial disaster that had overwhelmed the country to the want of confidence in a currency system which carried \$500,000,000 of silver and \$346,000,000 of greenbacks on the basis of a gold reserve of \$100,000,000. A single declaration of Congress that it intended to sustain inviolate the gold standard of value would do more than anything else to restore confidence.

It was intended to sell these bonds for gold and pay them in gold. Why not say so? Would anything else meet the situation and restore confidence? He could come to no other conclusion except that the pending bill was a miserable makeshift, which in no wise gave the Secretary of the Treasury the power he needed and desired.

Mr. Johnson, (Republican) was the first Republican to oppose the bill. His first sentence created a mild sensation.

"As a Republican," he began, "I want to give some reasons why all my colleagues should oppose this most iniquitous bill. I believe in undying hostility of the Republican party to an issue of bonds in time of peace and I do not propose that we shall give the lie to everything we said before the election and I for one can never concede what I regard as an error both of heart and head and a crime against the country—the bond transaction of last year. The passage of this bill would, I believe give that transaction the stamp and seal of Republican approval."

"Yesterday," he proceeded impetuously, "against my will and against my judgment and protest I voted for a revenue tariff bill. I believe that the verdict of 1894 was for the passage of a protection tariff act; and we should restore the McKinley bill and Bill McKinley."

After some further remarks by Mr. Johnson, (Republican, North Dakota) in favor of the bill and by Mr. Wheeler, (Democrat, Alabama) against it, the House at 5 o'clock recessed until 8 o'clock.

At the night session speeches were made against the bill by Messrs. Wilson, (Republican, Iowa), Bowers, (Republican, California), De Armond, (Democrat, Missouri), Tarsney, (Democrat, Missouri), and Shafroth, (Republican, Colorado), supported by Messrs. Wellington, (Republican, Maryland), Daniels, (New York,) and Northway, (Republican, Ohio.) The House at 10 o'clock adjourned.

### TWENTY-FOUR KILLED

**AND TWELVE OTHERS INJURED IN BALTIMORE'S OLDEST THEATRE.**

### DURING A SENSELESS PANIC

**Fatal Result of a Foolish Cry of Fire at the Old Front Street Theatre—Most of the Victims are Jews and Poles—Two of the Injured Will Die—Only Four of the Dead Have Been Identified—The House was Densely Packed at the Time.**

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 27.—In a senseless panic, caused by a defective gas burner and a foolish cry of fire, at the old Front street theatre, tonight, 24 people were killed, two fatally injured and ten more seriously hurt. Up to 1 o'clock this morning but four of the dead have been identified. They are:

- LEO COHN, aged 25; 205 North Front street.
- JENNIE HENZLE, aged 18; 209 Albenarle street.
- JACOB ROSENTHAL, aged 19; 226 South Eden street.
- MORRIS MALGIOUS, tailor, aged 30. Th injured at the city hospital are: MRS. FRIEDMAN, aged 25; crushed. MRS. GOLDMAN, aged 40; badly crushed.
- MILDA GOLDWAIT, aged 16; contusions and shock.
- MORRIS SCHAEFER, crushed.
- JACOB GOLDSTEIN, aged 20; crushed.
- ABRAHAM ROSENTHAL, aged 30; crushed.
- UNKNOWN BOY, aged 10; will die.
- UNKNOWN WOMAN, aged 25; will die.
- UNKNOWN MAN, aged 22; seriously hurt about body.
- UNKNOWN BOY, aged 16; serious internal injuries.

Almost all the victims are of Polish nativity and Hebrew extraction, and many of the injured were taken to their homes by friends, rendering it almost impossible to get a complete list at this time.

The theatre, which is probably the oldest in the city, was filled from pit to dome with people who had assembled to listen to Hebrew opera, which has been given in the old house twice a week for the past month. The ticket office receipts show that over 2,700 tickets had been sold, when, at 8 o'clock, the sale of seats was stopped because there were no more left. General admission tickets were sold, however, after this, and it is supposed that there were at least three thousand people within the walls when the curtain went up on the first act. As the capacity of the house is less than 2,500 the density of the crowd may be imagined.

Ten minutes after the curtain rose, one of the attendants went up to the second tier to light a gas jet which appeared to have been extinguished. As he turned the light flared up, and it was seen that there was no tip to the burner. The jet was well down toward the stage on the left side of the house, in plain view of the greater part of the audience, but as the glare from it showed against the wall, some one in the gallery shouted "fire, fire, fire."

In an instant there was a mad scramble for the door, in which the whole audience took part. The van guard of the terror-stricken multitude reached the entrance on Front street, pushed on by the howling, shrieking mob behind them. There those in the foremost rank, were compelled to turn to the right and to the left to reach the double entrance way, built in the form of storn doors. Passing through these doors, they reached a flight of steps, leading from each door, downward to a landing, from whence a broad stairway of moderate height would have carried them into the street and to safety. The steps leading from the door ways are but about five feet high, but the landing at their base is narrow. Down these the frightened people hurled themselves in the frightful struggle to reach the open air and to escape the certain death they thought was behind them. As the crowd from the two doors, one on the right, the other on the left, reached the landing they met. There was a brief struggle, and then some one lost his, or her footing and fell. In a moment the crowd, pushed with irresistible force from the rear, crowded upon the prostrate form and began in turn to stumble, reel and presently to fall prone upon the floor, under the myriads of feet coming like a herd of frightened Buffalo from behind.

In less time than it takes to tell it, the landing was packed twenty or thirty deep with the panic stricken multitude and the hundreds behind them were struggling over them to reach the street.

### THREE HEAVY FAILURES.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Dec. 27.—A sensation was created in local business circles this afternoon by the assignment of three of the best known men in the city, Leslie Combs, Daniel Swigert and R. A. Swigert. They made individual assignments for the benefit of their creditors. The Safe Vault and Trust Company was made assignee. No statements of assets or liabilities are given, but it is said that the liabilities would aggregate nearly \$300,000. Combs owns a big farm just outside of the city and was one of the largest tobacco growers in the State. The Swigerts are turfmen and among the most prominent in the State.

### MARCHING ON HAVANA

**THREE CUBAN COLUMNS NOW DRAWING NEAR THE CAPITAL.**

### AND THE SPANIARDS ARE ALARMED

**The Insurgent Army Forms a Half Circle Around the Spanish Forces, and Completely Commands the Portion of the Island Around Matanzas—A General Uprising of the People Against Spain Feared—Many Alarming Rumors Circulated.**

HAVANA, Dec. 27.—The excitement which has prevailed here since the insurgent army under Gomez and Maceo entered the province of Matanzas, continues to-day and is heightened by the meagreness of the news from the front. The Spanish authorities insist that the insurgents are in retreat and General Campos is still here and the work of fortifying Havana and its vicinity continues without an hour's interruption in any direction.

According to the official advices, Maceo is at the plantation of Olimpo, near the town of Cimarrones, a little way north of Jovellanos, the town which Campos retreated upon at Limonare. Cimarrones is about 45 kilometres from the city of Matanzas of the province of that name.

Quintín Banderas is said to be with his column at Sumidero, about 20 kilometres from Matanzas and only a little way from Limonare, where, according to the official announcements, Campos defeated the insurgents at Coliseo. But Sumidero is nearer to Matanzas than Coliseo, which would not seem to confirm the story that Banderas's column was defeated.

Maximo Gomez, still, according to the official advices, is at the farm of Ciervo, in the district of Jaguey Grande, and in the direction of the Grande Ciénaga Occidental de Zapata, an immense stretch of swamp land into which he could retreat to the southward if necessary, and possibly avoid pursuit upon the part of the Spanish troops.

It will thus be seen that three Cuban columns are accounted for, one to the north, at Sumidero, under Banderas; one in the centre at Cimarrones, under Maceo, and one to the south, near Jaguey Grande, under Gomez, all in the province of Matanzas and all to the westward of Colon.

The exact position of the Spanish columns being concentrated to meet the insurgents (to pursue them according to the Spanish officials) is not known; but the last reports received had it that the Spaniards were concentrating at Union de Reyes. But, Sumidero, where the Banderas column is located is well to the northward and only a little westward of Union de Reyes and Banderas would thus have no difficulty in pressing onward towards Havana northward of Union de Reyes and south of the city of Matanzas. Banderas would also be able to attack in the rear the troops sent to engage Maceo at Cimarrones, or he might join together and move upon any force sent to attack Gomez in the Jaguey Grande district. Consequently it is difficult to see how the Spanish commander figures out his statement that the Spanish troops occupy the most advantageous positions in the province of Matanzas. To the observer of the movements of the opposing forces, it would appear that Gomez to the south, Maceo in the centre and Banderas to the north and further west, really form a half circle around the Spanish forces and completely command that portion of the island.

Many people are convinced that if Gomez succeeds in pushing his forces to within a reasonable distance of Havana, an uprising of the friends of the insurgents here is not at all unlikely. Everybody you see in the streets seems to be in a state of great nervous excitement, and there are not a few people who are asking themselves how it is possible that Campos is now in Havana if the insurgents are in retreat and, if the city is threatened, why it is that he does not go out to meet the enemy.

The authorities are not blind to the fact that there is a strong element among the younger male population of this city which is in strong sympathy with the insurgents and, in case of serious trouble with the insurgents outside the city, it is an open question whether the fire department and even the bulk of the civil guards and volunteers here could be counted upon for any length of time. The triumphant march of the insurgents seems to have great effect upon the populace and those who three weeks ago laughed at the insurrection ever amounting to anything more than an uprising of the disaffected portion of the population are now anxiously looking for news from the front and are extremely apprehensive of hearing within a short time that the advance guard of the insurgents has been sighted from the outer works of the city of Havana.

The merchants of this city while still loyally supporting the government are beginning to be very nervous and look forward with a deal of alarm to the prospect of an uprising here and the entry of the insurgents into Havana which, it is claimed, is certain to be the signal for wholesale looting and other serious disorders.

In face of all these alarming rumors and expressed fears, the government authorities insist that there is absolutely no danger that insurgents will ever get any distance beyond Matanzas and they continue laughing at the mere mention of the idea, that Gomez can get within sight of Havana.

### WILL BE A TIGHT SQUEEZE.

**But Reed is Whipping the Republicans Into Line.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Bowers, of California, who was one of the committee of seven, who to-day delayed the vote on the bond bill until 3 o'clock to-morrow, tells me to-night that there will be one hundred Republican bolters against the passage of the bond bill, and that the first section, at least, will certainly fail. Bowers is extreme and a bitterly partisan Republican.

Reed realizes the tight squeeze in sight to-morrow, and his lieutenants, and he too, a part of the time, have been openly making a close canvass among the members on the floor to-night. The best opinion puts the vote very close with probabilities against passage.

The Republican kickers all insist that the greenbacks will be retired by the bill, as do the Democrats also.

Senator Butler to-day introduced a joint resolution for an amendment to the constitution so as to exempt income taxes from the provisions of the constitution relating to direct taxes and empowering Congress "to lay and collect taxes on all incomes regardless of the source from which the income is derived."

Congressman Shaw has remained at his post in spite of his acute stomach attack, but will if possible be in Fayetteville on Saturday where he has some imperative business awaiting him. But he will by that time, probably have cast his vote against the bond measure, which no doubt will be railroaded through just as the Tariff bill was.

Lord Pearson was not to be seen on the floor of House yesterday morning and he made no response when his name was called on the vote to shut off amendments. It was said that he did not arrive until four o'clock in the afternoon, just in time to cast his vote at five. He was paired earlier in the day.

Settle has taken great interest in corraling the Republican crowd, and he has been seen at every point until he almost begins to look like one of the whip-lashes of the Czar.

Appropriation for the Chippewa Indian land inspection having given out, Capt. Lovell, of Watauga, and J. S. Bell, of Clay, have lost their places until another appropriation is made.

C. L. Shover has been appointed postmaster at Millidgeville, N. C., vice D. B. Rodman resigned.

Prof. Bassett, of Trinity, is here and will to-morrow read an essay before the Historical Society.

W. E. CHRISTIAN.

### THE DAY IN THE SENATE.

#### Teller's Caustic Reply to Senator Hill's Bond Resolution.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The Senate was convened to-day by a spirited and somewhat personal debate, in which Mr. Hill, of New York, and Mr. Teller, of Colorado, were the principal figures. The New York Senator precipitated consideration of the bond question by offering a resolution directing that future bond issues to replenish the gold reserve should bear a provision that they would be payable in gold or silver at the option of the holder. In support of this Mr. Hill read a speech setting forth the difficulties of negotiating bonds under the uncertainties of the present law, branched out in a general discussion of finance, among other things urging the permanent retirement of the greenbacks in accordance with the recommendations of the President and Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Teller's reply to Mr. Hill was cutting, sarcastic and personal. He repudiated and protested against the efforts of the President and all his "tide waiters" to defame the credit of the United States. He spoke of the recent visit to Washington of a great New York banker, one of those who had imbecile bond transaction of last year. Again this banker was invited to Washington to help the country out of a dilemma. Mr. Teller asserted that United States securities were the choice of the markets of the world and the only attack ever made on them came from the present executive and his representatives in the Senate.

Mr. Hill made a spirited rejoinder calling forth a disclaimer from Mr. Teller that he had meant to designate the New York banker as a "tide waiter" to Mr. Cleveland. Mr. Hill declared that he spoke for neither the President nor the Secretary of the Treasury but only for himself.

The galleries were crowded during the debate and the Senators as well as the spectators keenly enjoyed the caustic tilt. Mr. Allen, (Populist, Nebraska) added his protest to that of Mr. Teller against defamations of our national credit. No final action on the Hill resolution was taken.

Two tariff amendments made their appearance, one by Mr. Burrows, placing on the dutiable list many articles now on the free list, and another by Mr. Quay increasing the duties on leaf tobacco.

A resolution was agreed to accepting the ram Kathadin which recently failed to meet the speed requirements. Also a resolution for the formal transfer of the Utah administration from the territorial to the new State authorities.

The bill making Palm Beach, Fla., a sub-port of entry and delivery was passed and at 2:40 p. m. the Senate adjourned until Monday.

ST. MICHAEL, Azores, Dec. 27.—The steamer Kirkby, from Wilmington, N. C., for Bremen, has landed here the crew of the bark Bremerhaven, from Philadelphia for Chantigny, which was abandoned at sea.

### COMMERCIAL DEATHS

**THE BUSINESS FAILURES FOR THE COMPLETED YEAR NUMBER 13,013**

### AN INCREASE OF OVER 2 PER CENT

**The Increase in Failures Was in the West, Northwest and Middle States—The New England, Southern and Pacific States Show a Decrease—Percentage of Assets and Liabilities Has Risen from 53 per Cent One Year Ago to Nearly 56 per Cent.**

New York, Dec. 27.—Bradstreet's to-morrow will say:

As is the rule in Christmas week, wholesale trade has been quiet. The holidays, the close of the year and stock-taking tend to make business slow, and promise only a light trade until late in January. At various cities, notably New York, Boston, Baltimore and Chicago, anticipations as to the character of trade early in the coming year are hopeful, but it remains to be seen whether the downward movement of demand and prices, and the delay in putting the currency on a sound basis, all of which have begun to show themselves in trade conditions, will permit of as early and marked gains in staple lines of trade in 1896 as has been confidently anticipated.

Business failures in the country for the completed year, number 13,013, an increase of more than 2 per cent, in number is accompanied by a gain of six per cent in liabilities of those failing, and the commercial death-rate, which averaged 1.20 in every 100 engaged in business during five years, from 1890 to 1894, inclusive, ranged as high as 1.50 in the panic year 1893, down to 1.21 in 1894 has risen to 1.23 of every 100 in business this year. The increase in number of failures are at the West, Northwest and in the Middle States, decreases being shown in New England, at the South and on the Pacific coast. The per centage of assets to liabilities has risen from 53 per cent one year ago to nearly 56 per cent as contrasted with 65 per cent in the year 1893.

DUN & CO.'S WEEKLY REVIEW.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade which issues to-morrow will say:

The failures of the fourth quarter of the year 1895, not yet finished, cannot be definitely stated, but the aggregate of deferred liabilities for the year, while much smaller than in 1893, will vary but little from that of 194.

The year's aggregate of commercial liabilities will probably be about \$170,000,000 in manufacturing over \$73,000,000, or ten per cent more than last year, but in trading about \$88,000,000, or 9 per cent less than last year.

The foreign and financial messages of the President were followed by violent re-action in the stock market last Saturday with grave fears of monetary trouble.

The sudden panic checked business in many departments, and the industries cannot be expected to show signs of improvement until the new year begins. Orders have for months been so much smaller than they were in the summer, when production was expanding and prices mounting rapidly, that new causes of uncertainty have the more influence.

Wheat and cotton were depressed by last week's panic and have had little time to recover. Wheat receipts continue enormous for the week, 3,794,072 bushels against 1,712,908 last week, and Atlantic exports, flour included, have been 7,526,560 bushels in four weeks of December, against 7,763,690 last year. Russian and other supplies are moving freely, many of the estimates are wholly forgotten and the men who predicted \$1 wheat have disappeared. Cotton has remained at 8 1/4 cents since last Saturday and enormous commercial and mill stocks here and abroad, with a demand for goods much smaller than in September, hinder an advance. The quantity which has come into sight is 50 per cent less than last year to date, but slightly larger than in 1892, when the crop was 6,700 bales.

### CHANCES IN THE SENATE.

**The Bond Bill May be Sacrificed for the Tariff Bill.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The Republican Senators have devoted considerable time during the past few days to informal conferences among themselves concerning the House tariff and bond bills with a view of securing united action if possible on either one or both of these measures. It is generally admitted that both bills will encounter very serious obstacles in the Senate, largely on account of the silver sentiment in that body. This sentiment is so strong that it has been feared by the anti-silver men that it would result in a free coinage amendment to each of the bills.

In view of this situation, it has been suggested that one of the bills might be sacrificed for the purpose of getting the other through. It is believed by some that if the bond bill can be first considered and a free coinage bill substituted for it and passed, the free coinage Republicans will then consent to all of the tariff bill to pass without a silver amendment and it is upon this line that the friends of the tariff bill are now proceeding. Some of the silver Republicans have indicated a willingness to consider this suggestion but others of them express doubts as to its feasibility.