To the President and to the Senate of the United States.

The Constitutional Convention of the State of California duly assembled by authority of law at Sacramento on the 28th day of September A.D. 1878 for the purpose of revising the Constitution of the State, respectfully memorializes the President and the Senate of the United States.

Whereas, a treaty or convention between the government of the United States and that of the Republic of France has been proposed and is now under consideration at the City of Washington, by which convention it is proposed to so revise the existing schedule of tariffs that a large reduction shall be made in import duties upon French products, particularly wines and spirits, and, Whereas, such reduction would result most disastrously to the large and growing vinicultural interests of the State of California; therefore this body, acting on behalf

of the People of California, does most earnestly protest against the proposed revision of such tariff, or any revision thereof whereby the import duties upon wines and spirits may be reduced.

And in support of such protest your memorialists respectfully show: that a large amount of capital, reaching by intelligent and reliable estimates, the sum of Fifty Millions of dollars, has been invested in the vineyards of California, and the various structures and improvements connected therewith; that all conditions of people have engaged in said industry from the Laborer and the small lot owner to the wealthy capitalist, and that the business has come to be the only means of support to thousands of the citizens of the State; that said industry is not even now largely remunerative but at best only yields a moderate return for the capital invested, and the Labor Employed; and that up to a very recent period the vineyardists of California have had a close and constant struggle

to place the industry upon a paying basis. That the proposed reduction of duties will if carried out utterly crush this industry, leave thousands without adequate means of support, and aggravate the distress prevailing among the producing classes, without the gain of a farthing to the government, or to any person or persons in the United States except the few engaged in the business of importing.

Wherefore said Convention has voted this protest and caused the same to be authenticated by the signatures of the President and Secretary.

Done at Sacramento on this 14th day of December A.D. 1878.

President

Attest

Secretary

Dec 4/78

Received & 480
Copies ordered
Printed, and
Copy sent
to our Senators
& Representatives
in Congress

E J Smith
ass't Sec