This photograph, taken on April 8, 1913, depicts President Woodrow Wilson personally addressing Congress on the Underwood-Simmons Tariff Act. This moment in history is very important because it was a rarity to for a President to call a special session of Congress and to address Congress personally. Wilson was very concerned about passing the tariff so he made a personal appeal to Congress, he was the first president to do so since John Adams. There was extensive media coverage for the event and as you can see in the photo the chamber is completely full. Despite the coverage President Wilson only spoke briefly. During his speech he focused discussion on the need for tariff reform and his concern about passing the reform.

“Pres. Wilson Addressing Congress.” *Prints & Photographs Online Catalog*. April 8, 1913. From The Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division. <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/ggbain.12039/>