

By Telegraph.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 9. — Hitchcock called up the bill to provide for the sale of the Fort Kearney military reservation in Nevada. It authorizes the sale of said reservation to actual settlers at the minimum price of \$1.25 per acre.

Edmunds said he understood that railway and other lands in that locality sold at \$2.50 per acre, and he saw no reason why Government should not receive the same price. He moved to amend the bill by striking out \$1.25 as the price and insert \$2.50.

Paddock thought the adoption of this amendment would be an unjust discrimination against the actual settlers. After further discussion it was laid over.

Caperton called up the motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill appropriated \$150,000 to survey the Austria, Tapalovampo and Pacific route; it was indefinitely postponed. He spoke in favor of the bill, and said the construction of the road would open a vast and profitable trade between the United States and Mexico. The Government of Mexico had its attention called to the matter and manifested a good deal of interest in the construction of the line. He submitted it to the senators from California, who were so interested in the Chinese immigration which threatens to overrun that country as well as our own, that it was all important that this country should co-operate with Mexico in keeping back that tide of Chinese immigration.

Christiancy said he was not opposed to this railroad. He hoped it would be built, but he was opposed to any further government aid or subsidy to any railroad whatever, north or south. Our experience in the past in reference to the encouragement of railroad enterprise by government had not been such as to warrant a repetition of it.

The post office appropriation bill was then taken up. It increases the House appropriation \$3,357,000. The first amendment proposed by the committee on appropriations was \$150,000 for mail depredations and special agents, instead of \$40,000 appropriated by the House bill, and after debate it was agreed to. The other amendments proposed by the committee on appropriations were agreed to as follows:—Providing that a sum not exceeding \$7,500 of the appropriation for special agents may be expended for fees for U. S. attorneys, marshals, clerks of courts and counsel necessarily employed by the special agents, subject to approval by the Attorney General; increasing the appropriation for wrapping twine from \$45,000 to \$90,000; for marking and rating stamps from \$5,000 to \$10,000; for letter balances and scales from \$3,000 to \$5,000, and for post route maps from \$20,000 to \$30,000. The committee reported amendments to appropriate \$30,000 for advertising instead of \$20,000, as proposed by the House, providing that the Postmaster General shall cause advertisements of all the general mail letting of each State and Territory to be conspicuously posted up in each postoffice in the State and Territory embraced in said advertisement for at least sixty days before the time of such general letting, and no other advertisement of such lettings shall be required; but this provision shall not apply to any other than general mail lettings. After debate the amendment was agreed to. The House proposed to appropriate \$680,000 for compensation to postmasters, and the Senate committee on appropriations reported an amendment to make the sum \$7,500,000. A long debate ensued on this.

Sherman said the Postmaster General had declared he could get along on \$400,000 less than the amount named by the committee. He moved to amend the amendment of the committee so as to make the amount for compensation of postmasters \$7,200,000, instead of \$7,500,000. He also gave notice that he would move, at the proper time, to increase the rate of postage on newspapers to four cents per pound, and he could do so, not to punish newspapers, but to make them pay some portion of the transportation through mails. He modified his amendment fixing the amount at

\$7,200,000 so as to provide that the reduction in the rate of compensation shall commence on the 1st of October next. The amendment was agreed to—yeas 23, nays 15.

Other amendments proposed by the committee were agreed to, as follows—increasing the appropriation for rent, light, and fuel from \$390,000 to \$425,000; the appropriation for stationery, from \$45,000 to \$50,000; for miscellaneous expenses, from \$50,000 to \$100,000; for compensation to railway postal clerks, from \$1,225,000 to \$1,300,000; for route agents, from \$450,000 to \$1,000,000; for mail route messengers, from \$47,000 to \$60,000; for local agents, from \$98,550 to \$109,000; for mail messengers, from \$621,000 to \$720,000; for pay of agents and assistants to distribute stamped envelopes and newspaper wrappers, from \$10,000 to \$16,800, and for transportation of foreign mails, from \$225,000 to \$250,000. The clause prohibiting the section of the House bill in regard to stamped envelopes was amended to read as follows, and as amended, agreed to: "No stamped envelopes or newspaper wrappers shall be sold by the post office department at less than, in addition to the legal postage, the average cost, including all salaries, clerk hire and other expenses connected therewith." The amendment of the committee providing that so much of the \$17,000,000 appropriated for the inland mail transportation as may be necessary may be expended to continue the daily mail service between Chicago and the Pacific Coast, not exceeding, however, \$25,000 was agreed to. The last eight sections of the bill, readjusting the compensation of the postmaster, providing new rates for postal railway service and fixing the rate on mail matter of the third class at one cent for each two ounces, etc., which the committee on appropriation recommended to be stricken out, were stricken out, and, on motion of Withers, they were referred to the committee on post offices and post roads, that they might be considered and appropriate bills reported to change the existing law.

The bill was then reported to the Senate and passed—23 to 14.

WASHINGTON, 12.—The Senate adjourned over until Thursday next.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 9.—A bill for the relief of Mrs. James K. Polk, widow of President Polk, allowing her \$1,500 for supplies furnished to the army in Tennessee during the rebellion, was passed.

Huntton moved to lay on the table Blaine's motion to reconsider the vote for the printing of the testimony taken before the judiciary committee.

Page suggested that the motion be withheld until the gentleman from Maine should be present.

Blaine, at that moment, entered the hall in hot haste, and with the declaration of "Here I am."

Buckner raised the question of consideration, claiming that private business being before the House, under the rules it was not in order to interpose other business. In the course of a parliamentary squabble over this and other points of order, Blaine insisted that, under the ruling of the Chair yesterday, he was not to be deprived of the control of his own motion.

The Speaker *pro tem.* (Cox) read from the report of yesterday's proceedings to show that Blaine himself had stated that if he could not call up the motion to reconsider yesterday, he would lose the parliamentary right to which he was entitled.

Blaine asked Huntton whether he insisted on his motion to lay on the table.

Huntton replied he did.

Blaine—You decline to accept my amendments.

Huntton—I have told you before what I was willing to do about that.

Blaine then fell back upon the assurance of the Speaker yesterday, that he (Blaine) would not be deprived of the opportunity of calling up his motion to reconsider.

The Speaker *pro tem.*—The only assurance given by the chair was that which has been read from the record, and that was in accordance with the rules.

Randall, of Pa., reminded Blaine that in entering his motion to reconsider, the other day, he (Blaine) had taken advantage of Huntton's omission to make the usual motion to reconsider and lay on the table.

Blaine—How did I take advantage of it? I went and asked the clerk about it.

Randall—I know exactly that.

Blaine—Well, what advantage did I take?

Randall—You took advantage of Huntton's omission to make the usual motion. I admit that you could do that.

Blaine—Was that any more advantage than acting under any rule of the House?

Randall—One moment; having taken that advantage, I submit that the motion of the gentleman from Virginia is entirely within the practice and entirely within due courtesy; also, it is taking advantage to-day of the gentleman from Maine in moving to lay his motion on the table now as to Caldwell's telegram. I understand the gentleman from Virginia to be willing to let the telegram go into the proceedings for what it is worth.

Blaine—It could not go for more. (Laughter).

Randall—I don't yet understand that the gentleman from Virginia objects to the telegram going in.

Blaine—But I call the attention of the gentleman from Pennsylvania to the fact that neither the chairman of the judiciary committee nor the chairman of the subcommittee has ever yet intimated or given to the House any advice of that telegram.

Randall—Will the gentleman from Maine ask the House now that the telegram be embodied in the proceedings of the committee?

Blaine—I am after that very thing, and I want the official telegram. The gentleman from Kentucky (Knot), after keeping it in his pocket five days (indignant calls to order from the democratic side, seconded by loud hammering of the Speaker's gavel), gave it, as I understand, to the Associated Press, but has never given it to the House.

Glover and other democratic members rose to a question of order but Blaine held his position, and in the midst of great uproar and confusion, asserted that all the members on the democratic side of the House were out of order.

The Speaker *pro tem.* required the gentleman from Maine and other members who were standing to take their seats, and added that the gentleman from Maine is out of order, and that no one knew it better than himself.

Blackburn demanded to be informed whether the utterances of the member, delivered out of order, should be published in the *Record*?

The Speaker replied there were no rules on the subject. He added that when he gave the House assurance yesterday that he would recognize the gentleman from Maine to call up his motion to reconsider, he did not mean to preclude, nor could he preclude, any other member from moving at the proper time to lay the motion to reconsider on the table. How, he asked, could he take the member from Virginia off the floor.

Blaine—The gentleman from Virginia can very easily make his motion otherwise.

Huntton called for the regular order.

Wilson, of Iowa, rose, and was informed by the Speaker, that pending the motion it was not debatable. He said, however, that he only desired to raise the question of consideration on this business, for he did not believe that the majority of this House would shut off the gentleman from Maine from a hearing.

The Speaker—The objection comes too late.

Wilson—How so?

Speaker—Because the motion to lay on the table is pending.

Southard—I desire a word in explanation of what took place yesterday. The gentleman from Maine insisted yesterday on calling up his motion to reconsider, and one of the reasons alleged by him why he should have that right was, that he would lose it if he did not exercise it then.

Blaine—And the Chair assured me otherwise.

The Speaker—The Chair did not assure you otherwise. The gentleman states what the record does not show.

Southard—He has lost the floor, and has no right to claim it to-day.

Kasson renewed the point of order made by Buckner, that under the rules of the House only private business was in order to-day, and that, therefore, it was not in order to call up this matter of general business.

The Speaker overruled the point of order.

Blaine—(forcibly) On what ground?

Speaker—(coolly) The chair is not bound to give its reasons.

Blaine—(scornfully). I never heard the Speaker refuse to give any reasons for its decision.

The Speaker—(severely). The gentleman is out of order now. (Applause on the democratic side).

Blaine—(irritatingly). Have you any reason?

Speaker—(more severely). The gentleman has no right to make a colloquy with the chair.

Blaine—The chair does not seem disposed to hear a colloquy.

The Speaker finally put the question to the House on Huntton's motion, and as Garfield called for the yeas and nays, they were ordered. The republicans then resorted to a plan of withholding their votes so as to defeat the action by want of a quorum.

After the roll was called but before any announcement of the result, Springer rose to a parliamentary inquiry, when Blaine immediately started to his feet and objected to it. At this demonstration Springer suggested to Blaine that he was entirely forgetting his position, and the Speaker calmly explained that it was always the practice of the chair to hear parliamentary inquiry.

Blaine—During the roll call, never.

Speaker—The roll call has been completed.

Blaine—Never has such a thing been done.

Speaker—(With great severity of manner) It is highly improper and hardly decent for the gentleman to confer with the Chair in that peculiar style.

Blaine—The gentleman's (Springer's) inquiry is merely dilatory.

Springer—I deny the gentleman's right to impugn my motives.

Blaine—The clerk has read and I demand that it be announced.

Speaker—The Chair cannot announce the vote before it is handed to him.

Blaine—The vote has been read and I demand that it be announced. (Shouts of order! order! from the democratic side of the House.)

Springer—I demand that the gentleman from Maine take his seat and be in order.

Blaine—I am in order.

Speaker—If the gentleman from Maine will not take his seat when properly called to order, the Chair will not only require him to do so under the rules, but will call on the officers of the House to enforce its orders (applause on the democratic side).

Foster—(In an undertone). Call them in! fetch them on!

Blaine—(Taking his seat) I will be seated with pleasure when the others are.

Speaker—The gentleman from Maine stated that the Chair should have announced the vote before the Chair received it. The Chair had not the vote at the time the imputation was made, which was intended to go to the country as an imputation of the unfairness of the Chair. The Chair now proceeded to announce in a proper and formal manner the vote upon the question, which is now for the first time handed to him, and all statements to the contrary are positively and infamously false. The Chair says so on honor. (Applause on the democratic side).

Blaine—(Tauntingly) That is very parliamentary language.

The vote was then announced—yeas 121, nays 23.

Speaker—A quorum has not voted.

Page—I move that the House do now adjourn.

Springer rose at the same time as Page and was recognized by the chair.

Page stated that his motion must be put.

The Speaker *pro tem* intimated that the chair understood its own business, and added that two motions were in order, one for a call of the House and one to adjourn, and on contest that the gentleman from Illinois could not make one of those motions.

Page—I have just made one.

Springer—My point of order is this—

Blaine—No points of order.

Speaker—The gentleman is not Speaker of the House now. (Applause and laughter on the Democratic side.)

Blaine—But I am a member.

Springer—The parliamentary inquiry which I was trying to put, if

the gentleman from Maine would allow me, is this: whether a quorum of members, although not voting, are not in their seats, and whether the chair will not take cognizance of that fact.

Speaker—The parliamentary inquiry is a very pertinent and proper one. The chair decides, that in deciding in the presence of a quorum it cannot go outside of the record just handed up by the clerk.

Blaine—Now a motion to adjourn is in order.

Page—I renew my notion to adjourn.

Springer—I move a call of the House.

Blaine—I rise to a point of order.

Speaker—The gentleman will state his point of order.

Blaine—I desire to have read, as explaining the point of order, an extract from the rules.

The clerk read from the manual as follows: "It is not in order on private bill day to call up and consider the motion to reconsider a vote on a public bill, if objected to, except after postponement by a majority vote, of private business."

Blaine, resuming—The chair overruled that point when made by the gentleman from Iowa. I asked the chair to give its reason, and the chairman declined to do so, and very prudently, because that rule is explicit, that a motion to reconsider is not in order during private bill day. This is a public matter. It is not here properly; it is here by defiance of rule, by the ruling of the chair, for which the chairman could give no reason, and which is right in the teeth of the letter of rule. That is my point. (Loud applause on the republican side and in the galleries).

Springer—The rule uses the words "a public bill;" this is not a public bill, it is a resolution of a private nature, in the interest of the nomination of the gentleman for President of the United States. (Applause, hisses, laughter and great uproar and excitement.)

Springer—The gentleman from Maine raised a point of order and has had the rule read, but in the opinion of the Chair the rule is not applicable at the present state of business. It is enough for the Chair to say that oftentimes the occupants of the Chair make rulings without giving reasons for them, otherwise the whole business of the House might be taken up in that way.

Blaine—I never have seen it.

Speaker—The Chair has to call the gentleman from Maine to order, and gives no reason for it, because it is apparent that he is out of order in repeatedly interrupting. (Applause on the democratic side.) The gentleman knows the rules very well that he must not interrupt the Chair when making a decision.

Brown—I wish simply to know if this is an American Congress.

Blaine—That is what I want to know, too.

Brown—Or whether we are pupils of a school-master of Maine. (Laughter.)

Blaine—(without heeding the Speaker's gavel). It is the most surprising American Congress that ever assembled. (Laughter and applause.)

A member of the democratic side—To that we all agree. (Laughter, applause and general uproar, with the Speaker vainly endeavoring to enforce order, and the audience in the gallery paying as little attention as the members on the floor to the efforts of the Chair in that direction.)

Morrison asked unanimous consent to offer the following resolution:

Resolved: That all the evidence taken by the judiciary committee under authority of the resolutions of Luttrell and Tarbox, be printed, and that the dispatch signed by Josiah Caldwell be also printed as part of the record in the case; and that said committee shall examine any witnesses who may be called who may have heard said Caldwell make the same or contradictory statement as that contained in the said dispatch, and the evidence of such witnesses shall also be printed, with other evidence taken by said committee.

Speaker—Is there any objection? Hear—I object.

In consequence of the confusion and excitement, the Speaker directed the doorkeeper to exclude from the floor all persons not entitled to the privilege, and to preserve order in the galleries, announcing it as his determination to