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FORTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

By Telegraph to the NEWS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 7.—Dawes offered the following resolution which was also laid over and ordered printed:

Resolved, That the committee on finance be instructed to inquire and report as soon as practicable what specified reduction can be made in customs duties and internal taxes which will, in their judgment, reduce the receipts to the necessary and economical expenditures of the government without impairing the prosperity and development of home industries, or the compensation of home labor.

On motion of Hoar, the Pacific Railway Funding Bill was made the special order for December 21st, at 2 o'clock, with the same rights as it now has.

Ingalls made a statement as to the withholding from homestead entry the Atlantic and Pacific Railway lands in New Mexico, declared forfeited by the act of July 8, 1886, intimating that the fault lay with the commissioner of public lands who seemed to regard every pre-emptor as a kleptomaniac bound on pillage and plunder, and he offered a resolution (which was adopted) directing the Secretary of the Interior to inform the Senate whether such lands had been reopened to entry and if not, to state the occasion of the delay.

On motion of Frye the select committees of the Senate as they existed on the day of the last adjournment were revived and continued during the present session.

The preamble and resolution offered yesterday by Mitchell, calling on the Secretary of War for information as to the exchange of engineers in charge of certain river and harbor improvements on the Columbia River in Oregon and Washington Territory, and as to the cause of the delay in the execution of such works was taken up. After a long discussion, the preamble was withdrawn and the resolution, being modified by the omission of clauses in regard to the change of engineers, was adopted.

Morrill offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the promise of making any revision of the tariff in the spirit of fairness to all, not to injure any domestic industries, but to promote their healthy growth, so that any change of law must be at every step regardful of labor and capital involved, and without depriving American labor of the ability to compete successfully with foreign labor and without imposing lower rates of duty than will be ample to cover any increased cost of production, which may exist in consequence of the higher rate of wages prevailing in this country, appears so obviously hopeless and impracticable that any further attempts at revision by Congress in contravention to the foregoing cardinal declarations are to be regarded as inexpedient and detrimental to the revival of trade and industry of the country.

He gave notice he would day after to-morrow submit to the Senate some remarks on the subject.

Laid over until to-morrow.

The credentials of Senator Cheney, of New Hampshire, appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Pike, were presented by Blair, and the oath of office was administered to Cheney.

Beck introduced a bill to provide for the retirement of United States legal tender and National Bank notes of small denominations, and for the issue of coin certificates. Referred to committee on finance.

Van Wyck introduced a bill to exempt from duty imported sugar and molasses, and also imported boards, lumber and timber. Referred to the same committee.

Blair gave notice that he would, to-morrow, ask the consideration of the joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution, extending the right of suffrage to women.

The message from the House announcing the death, yesterday, of Price, of Wisconsin, was taken up. A resolution of condolence offered by Spooner was adopted, and Spooner, Manderson and Blackburn appointed a committee to attend the funeral.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 7.—After reading the journal, by unanimous consent, the States were called for the introduction of bills and resolutions, when the following were introduced and referred:

By Adams (Illinois)—To change the law in relation to the amount of United States bonds required to be kept on deposit by national banks, as security for their circulating notes. [It provides that banks having a capital of $500,000 or less, shall not be required to keep on deposit bonds in excess of one-tenth of their capital stock as security for their circulation notes and that such banks as have on deposit bonds in excess of this amount are authorized to reduce their circulation by the deposit of lawful money as provided by law. *Provided*, That the amount of such circulation notes shall not exceed in any one case 90 per cent. of the par value of the bonds deposited as herein provided.]

By Peters (Kansas)—For the disposal of gold or silver coin or bullion as security for national bank circulation.

By Henderson (Indiana)—For the relief of the United States Supreme Court, and to expedite the dispatch of business in that court; also requiring investigation, and legislation compelling payment to the General Government for the use of public lands by cattle companies.

By Hermann (Oregon)—A resolution calling on the Secretary of War for information as to the delay in resuming active operations for the improvement of the Columbia River.

By Herbert (Ala.)—A resolution authorizing the committee on rules, upon one days' notice, to designate any measure for the consideration of the House.

By Parker (New York)—To amend the oleomargarine bill. Referred to the committee on agriculture.

By Cox (New York)—To amend Section 51, Revised Statutes, so as to read: "Whenever a vacancy occurs in either House of Congress, by death or otherwise, of any member or delegate elected or appointed thereto, after the commencement of the Congress to which he has been elected or appointed, the person elected or appointed to fill it shall be compensated and paid from the time that he is elected to fill the vacancy; *provided*, that he shall not receive pay while holding any Federal office." [This corrects the law which authorizes two salaries, one to a Congressman and the other to an officer, such as a minister.] It is understood that Cox, who is, under the law, entitled to two salaries, intends to comply with the provisions of this act, even though it is not according to law.

Reagan of Texas offered a resolution fixing the 10th of December for the consideration of business reported from the committee on commerce. Referred.

The committees were then called, but no reports were submitted.

In the morning hour Bragg of Wisconsin, on behalf of the committee on military affairs, called up for action the Senate bill for the relief of graduates of the Military Academy. After some discussion the bill was passed.

Bragg then called up the bill appropriating $200,000 for the establishment at Fort Riley, Kansas, of a permanent school of instruction for cavalry and light artillery, and making a further appropriation of $175,080 for barracks and quarters at Fort A. D. Russell, Wyoming, and Fort Robinson, Nebraska. Passed—yeas 138, nays 88.

The morning hour having expired, Caldwell, of Tennessee, called up for consideration the electoral count bill, which was a special continuing order.

Hatch, of Missouri, antagonized the motion with another providing for the consideration of the bill to enlarge the powers and duties of the Department of Agriculture.

The House, however, decided by a vote of 101 to 97, to consider the Senate electoral count bill, with the proposed House amendments.

Adjourned.

GENERAL NEWS.

THE FEDERATION OF LABOR UNIONS AT COLUMBUS.

A Storm of Unusual Severity Prevailing on the Atlantic Coast.

Henry George's Reply to Archbishop Corrigan on Free Lands.

By Telegraph to the NEWS.

NATIONAL MATTERS.

Spoliation Claims.

WASHINGTON, 7.—The Court of Claims last May decided favorably to the claimants on the general principles applicable to the French spoliation claims. Since then the Government has moved for a rehearing, and the argument on this motion has been going on for some two weeks. Yesterday the court decided the motion against the Government. Judge John Davis delivered the opinion. The general principles decided in May are reaffirmed and the court considers in detail other points, holding that a vessel could not be legally condemned on the single ground that her crew did not conform to the French laws; that decisions of prize courts are not binding on the police department of a foreign government; that an appeal to the court of last resort in France was not necessary to the validity of spoliation cases, because France did not require it as a condition precedent to the recovery of an indemnity. The opinion discusses the laws of nations as applied to neutral rights, and holds generally, while reserving particular cases for discussion upon their individual merits, that the conduct of France towards American commerce prior to 1800 was illegal.

PENSIONS.

Senator Ingalls to-day introduced the following bills amendatory to the pension laws:

To increase the pension for the loss of an eye to $30 per month, and for a partial loss of sight to a proportionate amount.

To increase the pension for the loss of one hand or foot, or for the total disability of the same to $35 per month.

For the loss of an arm within five inches of or above the elbow joint, or the loss of a leg within six inches of or above the knee joint, or the total disability of the same, to $40 per month, and for the loss of an arm within six inches of the shoulder joint, to $45 per month.

Also, providing that the pensions of all persons now on the pension rolls, and all persons hereafter granted pensions by special act of Congress, shall commence from the date of the discharge from the service of the United States, provided the disability was contracted in the line of duty in the service of the United States.

The National Banks.

A bill was introduced by Senator Beck to day for the retirement of United States legal tender and National Bank notes of small denominations. It is nearly identical with the amendment offered by him to the sundry civil bill at the last session of Congress.

It provides that hereafter no United States note shall be issued of a denomination less than ten, nor more than five hundred dollars; that the denomination higher than $100 shall not exceed more than one-fourth of the value of the National Bank circulation outstanding, and that not more than one-fourth of the value of the National Bank circulation outstanding at any time shall be of less denomination than $10. In all new issues coin certificates shall be substituted for gold and silver certificates wherever either is authorized to be issued under the existing laws, and all gold and silver certificates now outstanding shall be retired as soon as received and coin certificates can be issued in their stead. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and required to issue coin certificates in denominations of one, two and five dollars, on all surplus coin and gold bullion held at any time by the Treasury as the property of the United States in excess of $100,000,000, and pay out the same in discharge of all obligations of the United States, except such as have been heretofore made payable exclusively in gold and silver coin. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer of the United States, upon the receipt of certificates of deposit stating that gold coin or standard silver dollars in sums of ten dollars or multiples thereof, have been deposited at any sub-treasury, to order the payment of a like amount of coin in notes of such denominations as may be requested, or not less than one nor more than $500, which shall be redeemable in gold or silver coin, at the option of the United States. All certificates authorized by this bill, when paid into the Treasury, should be re-issued or new certificates substituted for such as are returned because of being mutilated or defaced. No coin certificates shall be issued of greater denomination that $500, and at least two-thirds in value of such certificates outstanding at any time shall be offered in sums not exceeding $50.

Representative Miller of Texas introduced a bill to amend the National Bank Act of July 12, 1882, so as to provide that national banks having a capital of $75,000 or less shall not be required to keep on deposit at the Treasury of the United States bonds in excess of $6,500 as security for circulation; that banks having a capital of not more than $150,000 and not less than $75,000 shall keep on deposit $10,000, and banks having a capital of $150,000 or more shall not be required to keep on deposit more than $25,000.

The Attorney General's Report.

The annual report of Attorney General Garland contains a detailed statement of the business of the Department of Justice during the last fiscal year, together with the statistics of crime in the United States. During the year 634 suits, aggregating in amount $3,500,000 have been brought under the ordinary jurisdiction of the Court of Claims. The total number of such cases pending is 691, involving $25,000,000. Under the Bowman act 1,258 cases have been transmitted to the Court by the Legislature of Congress. These involve a large amount. There are now pending 1,140 cases, the amount involved being $30,000,000. Under the same act twenty-eight claims to the amount of $4,000,000 have been transmitted by heads of Departments. Of these, nine cases including $1,500,000 are still pending. In addition to the above, there has been filed under the "French Spoliation Act," 250 cases, amounting to $23,000,000. It is thought 500 more cases will be filed, and that amount will be increased to about $15,000,000. During the year 425 suits, claiming $17,706,428, were brought to trial. In 386 suits, claiming $1,619,600, judgment was for claimants for $967,589. During the year 1,374 civil suits, to which the United States was a party were terminated in the Circuit and District Courts of the United States. The aggregate amount of judgments rendered in favor of the United States in civil suits is $621,158. The Attorney General briefly urges the importance of legislation on the following matters, the necessity for which was pointed out in his last annual report: Fees for marshals in Territories; pay for deputy marshals; revision of fee bill; substitution of fiscal for calendar year; chief supervisors of elections; protection of civil officers and witnesses; fees of witnesses and jurors in territories and reorganization of jury system in the District of Columbia. He devotes a chapter to the subject of United States prisoners and the general question of convict labor, and advocates building of a government penitentiary and reformatory at an early day. The number of United States prisoners in custody June 30th, 1886, was 5929. It is impossible, the Attorney General says, to overestimate the necessity that exists for a change in the judicial system to meet the constantly increasing business of the country and he urges that something be done to remedy the evils complained of on all sides.

APPROPRIATION ESTIMATES.

The Secretary of the Treasury has sent to Congress estimates of the appropriations required for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1888. The total amount estimated as required for all expenses of the Government is $325,185,794, which is $14,403,859 less than the sum called for in the estimates submitted last year, and $272,091 less than the aggregate of appropriations for the present fiscal year. The estimates for 1888 are made up of the following items:

Legislative establishment	$ 3,330,883
Executive establishment	18,125,408
Judicial establishment	4,160,200
Foreign intercourse	19,135,722
Military establishment	25,847,893
Naval establishment	30,639,756
Indian affairs	5,908,873
Pensions	76,252,500
Public works	27,460,694
Postal service	47,295,530
Miscellaneous	24,138,689
Permanent annual appropriations	116,699,822
Grand total	$325,185,794

The estimates for the executive establishment, judicial establishment, military establishment, naval establishment, public works, and postal service, are in excess of the appropriations for those objects for the current fiscal year.

PLEURO-PNEUMONIA.

De Witt Smith of Illinois, president of the National Cattle Growers' Association, arrived in the city to-night, for the purpose of securing the passage of a bill to more effectually prevent the spread of pleuro-pneumonia or other contagious diseases. The bill proposed by the association, which will shortly be introduced in the Senate by Cullom, is substantially the same as that urged upon Congress three years ago. It gives the Commissioner of Agriculture authority to go into infected States and condemn, pay for and kill diseased cattle and cattle exposed to contagious and spreading diseases. This, however, is to be done in co-operation with the State authorities. In case the State refuses to co-operate with the National Government, it is proposed that the President shall have the power to "schedule" such State and prohibit transportation beyond its boundaries.

EXPOSITIONS.

The Boards of Promotion of the Constitutional Centennial Celebration in 1889, the World's Exposition in honor of the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America, and the Permanent Exposition of the Three Americas, an outgrowth of the World's exposition, proposed to be held in the City of Washington, met in convention in this city to-day. Delegates were present from most of the large cities of the country. The West was well represented. The convention adopted a series of resolutions providing for the appointment of a committee of 15 members to prepare a suitable memorial setting forth the objects of the convention, which is to be presented to Congress with a view to securing its endorsement and the appropriations necessary to carry the programme for the proposed celebrations into effect.

Mortgages Foreclosed.

CHICAGO, 7.—Judge Gresham rendered his decision in the now famous Wabash Receiver case this afternoon in the suit of the bondholders of 1879 for a foreclosure of all the lines of the Wabash system east of the Mississippi river, and also Cleo's bill for the foreclosure of the mortgage on the Chicago division. Judge Gresham gave a lengthy opinion, reviewing the whole case from the time the Receivers were appointed in 1884 to date, together with the lease by the Wabash Company to the St. Louis & Iron Mountain Company. The Court also reviewed the efforts of the purchasing committee to reorganize the company and place it on a new basis, and indicated that said committee had singally failed in all its endeavors. There was no probability of its ever succeeding in putting the corporation on a sure foundation. The procedure under which the Receivers were appointed was severely criticised. Their appointment was originally made by the United States Court at St. Louis on the application of the company itself.

Another scathing feature of animadversion by the court was that certain orders which the purchasing committee had obtained from the court in St. Louis, authorizing the receivers to use the net earnings of the lines to buy the coupons on such bonds, the holders of which assented to the plan pursued by the committee, while the coupons of the other bonds were ignored and left unpaid. The court said that the order adverted to, taken with four million dollars of the floating indebtedness of the Wabash Company had been held as a menace over the heads of non-assenting bondholders as a measure of coercion by members of the purchasing committee. The Judge did not believe that the court at St. Louis supposed for a moment that the order given would be used as it had been; otherwise it would never been granted. The order referred to was made September 21st, 1886. Judge Gresham decided that he had jurisdiction, for the reason that the bulk of the property covered by the mortgages in question was chiefly in this district, and that the proper showing had been made on the mortgages for which the foreclosure had been asked. He held that they should be foreclosed and the present receivers removed.

Leave was therefore given to the mortgage bondholders of 1867 and 1879 to file a bill in the United States Circuit Court at Springfield, asking for a receiver for their property. It was held that the application for the appointment of a receiver for the Chicago division of the system could be filed here and would be entertained. They were, it is held, entitled to such a receiver, and their case, from the showing made, was good. In the course of his decision, Judge Gresham said that it had been plain that Solon Humphreys, Russell Sage, Jay Gould, Sydney Dillon, Charles Ridgely and Hopkins were the sole owners of the stock of the Ellsworth coal mines, and that it had also been made plain that Humphreys, as receiver had bought vast quantities of coal from himself as the Ellsworth Coal Company, paying more than the market price.

The Judge also said that it was plain that Humphreys, as the Receiver of the Wabash, had made a rebate in freight charges to himself as the Ellsworth Coal Company amounting to nearly $90,000, or more than the total capital stock of the coal company. The court said: 'There is evidence tending to show that the price for coal purchased for use was too high, and that the freight upon the coal was too low. The relations which these two corporations sustained to each other exposed the owners of the stock of the directors of the coal company to the suspicion of intending to benefit that company at the expense of the Wabash Company."

A Severe Storm.

NEW YORK, 7.—Reports to the Associated Press show that a storm of unusual severity has prevailed all day along nearly the entire Atlantic coast. The wind has been blowing with violence on the shore and shipping has consequently been subjected to extreme danger. Numerous vessels are reported ashore and badly damaged or entirely wrecked, but as far as learned their crews all managed to reach shore or were rescued from their peril alive. The storm was accompanied by snow in most places, and extended far inland, and railway travel has been much impeded in this State and New Jersey.

A Boston dispatch says: The wind storm here has lasted all day and has been accompanied by a heavy fall of snow, which interfered seriously with travel in the streets. It is believed that many disasters have happened at sea, especially as the signal service gave no warning of the approach of the storm and the signals were not ordered up until the storm was here in full force. On Cape Cod the wind attained a velocity of 50 miles an hour. The storm seemed to approach from the ocean and in some respects is one of the most remarkable ever known on this Coast.

Burned to Death.

OSAGE CITY, Kansas, 7.—A small house in a remote part of town was burned this morning. It was owned and occupied by George Clark, an old negro, and his wife, whose charred remains were taken from the ruins.

Tariff Association.

PITTSBURG, 7.—The *Commercial Gazette* is authority for the statement that a National Tariff Association is being formed among the workingmen of the country. By the time the Presidential election of 1888, it says, thousands of clubs will be in existence in the North and five Southern States. The organization was started in Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama. In the coming year organizers will be placed in the States of Virginia and West Virginia. These will be the only Southern States in which the light will be made. In the North each State will be canvassed. In Massachusetts an organizer has already been appointed and clubs will be organized as soon as possible in every town and village. State organizations are being placed in other Northern States. The organization will in no way antagonize the Industrial League of Philadelphia or the Protective League of New York, as it is to be entirely independent of either.

Federation of Labor Unions.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, 7.—The Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions of the United States and Canada opened its annual session to-day. The meeting was to have been held in St. Louis, but it was changed to this city owing to the convention of National Trades Unions, which convenes here to-morrow. There are a large number of delegates and it is expected they will form a Union.

President Gompers says he regrets the non-action of the Amalgamated Association looking to confederation and failing to be represented.

Henry Emerick of the New York Furniture Workers' International Union denies the press report that he stated at Pittsburg that a general demand was to be made January first for the reduction to nine hours, and in event a of refusal, a strike was to follow two months later.

The session will hear the report of the Legislative Committee this afternoon.

Grafton Peace, representative of the State Trades Assembly delivered an address congratulating the Federation on the stand it had taken, not to mix labor with politics. Harmony in Trades Unions becomes discord on the political platform. He contrasted the spectacle of Powderly and Henry George as political candidates to represent workingmen, one a free trader and the other a protectionist.

President Gompers, replying, reviewed the past work of the Trades Unions tending to the enlightenment of all and being conservators of the public peace. As an organization they are against riot, tumult and Anarchy and Socialism in all its bearings. They looked to and cultivated the spirit of independence and manhood and the right to free speech, liberty and the rights of property. They have had many dissensions during the year, but these would be touched upon in the report of the Legislative Committee. Refering to the National Convention, which meets to-morrow, they should, he said, so conduct legislation as to meet with the convention's approbation.

An adjournment was taken to 3 p. m. and some excitement was created in the hall by John R. Wluders, of San Francisco, at the head of the International Typographical Union, beginning the agitation for the expulsion of W. F. G. Price, the correspondent of the New York *Tribune*, which was denounced as the leading "rat" office. The question will be brought up this afternoon.

Probably Insane.

WORCESTER, Mass., 7.—On Friday last the *Gazette* published at the request of Mrs. George M. Rice of Bridge, the oldest sister of Levi Wilson, her complete denial of his (Wilson's) claim to be the son of Moen. On their return to Bridge, Mr. and Mrs. Rice were met by Wilson, who demanded their signatures to affidavits supporting his story. They refused, and he threatened vengeance on them unless they would help him. Seeing the affidavits published in Providence yesterday, they went to George W. Hobbs and voluntarily made affidavits supporting Mrs Rice's story of last Friday, and emphatically declared that there is no truth in Wilson's story. Both say in their affidavits that they believe him to be insane.

Henry George's Reply to Archbishop Corrigan.

NEW YORK, 7.—Henry George, the late Labor candidate for Mayor of this city, has addressed an open letter to Archbishop Corrigan, of the Catholic diocese of New York, in reference to the recent pastoral letter by the latter, in which he took occasion to warn his people against the land theories of George. Nearly all the letter in reply is devoted to a controversial discussion of George's well-known theories on the question of the private ownership of land. Aside from that the significant part of the letter is as follows:

"That part of your pastoral to which I refer has been taken by the press as placing the Catholic Church in an attitude of the champion of private property in the land, and is certainly calculated to create the impression that the doctrine that all men have equal and inalienable rights to use this natural element as opposed to and condemned by the Catholic faith. Since I am not a Catholic, it might seem hardly befitting in me to deny your right as an Archbishop to clothe your political and economic opinions in the garb of official religious teaching, but I may, perhaps, be permitted to call your attention to the fact that such a right has been expressly denied by high Catholic authority, and to the fact that the very opinions which you officially stigmatize as opposed to the Catholic teachings, are openly avowed not only by Catholic laymen and priests, but by prelates of official dignity not inferior to your own. Perhaps, also, I may be permitted to observe that the quotation you make from the encyclical of Pope Leo XII in no way bears out the interpretation you put upon it. Instead of condemning as dangerous the theory that human rights to the use of land are equal, it on the contrary condemns only those who assail the right of property which is sanctioned by its natural law, and this restriction which excludes land is still further enforced by the Pope's characterization of the property of which he speaks, a characterization that clearly applies only to that species of property which is the result of human exertion."

The Telephone Suit.

COLUMBUS, 7.—Opposing counsel in the Bell Telephone case appeared in the United States Circuit Court today, and the motion of the government's counsel to dismiss the case without prejudice, presumably with the intention of bringing another suit in the Massachusetts court, was argued at length. Senator Thurman appearing for the government, and the defense being represented by Senator J. E. McDonald, of Indiana, and J. J. Storrow, of Boston. Counsel for the defense contended that they were not prepared to make the proceedings, in connection with the pleas as to the jurisdiction, which was argued a short time ago at Cincinnati, a part of the transcript on an appeal for removal. They were, however, induced to yield. A reconciliation was affected, and Judge Sage ordered the case dismissed without prejudice and without record as far as its status in the Ohio district is concerned.

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