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FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 19.—The President pro tem. submitted the response of the Secretary of the Interior to the resolution of the 12th inst. asking about the lapse of the land grant to the Northern Pacific, and in connection therewith, to the action of ex-Secretary Schurz. Referred to the railroad committee by the speaker, but on the suggestion of Edmunds it was referred to the judiciary committee.

The bill ratifying the act of the Choctaw Nation, granting the right of way to the St. Louis & San Francisco Railway, was recommitted to the committee on railroads, with the understanding, however, that when reported back it should not lose its place on the calendar.

A modification of the internal revenue laws, so that producers of leaf tobacco may not be required to take out license, was proposed. Discussion ran along for some time, when the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 19.— Burrows, of Michigan, made a personal statement that he was responsible for his own sins, but not those of others. He has been reported as introducing a bill to retire national banks.

Burroughs, of Missouri, said he would like all the honor of introducing that bill.

The House considered the report of the committee on rules on increasing the membership of committees.

Belford having obtained five minutes time from Page, who was entitled to the floor, ridiculed the pending proposition. He wanted to know why Pennsylvania should not be satisfied with the chairmanship of the ways and means committee, coinage committee and committee on public expenditures. He thought the departure from the old system in giving the latter chairmanship to his distinguished friend Mr. Reynolds, was a good one. Then there was the old State of Wisconsin, which had got the chairmanship of the Pacific Railroad committee although there was no Pacific Railroad within 1,000 miles of her border, and the chairmanship of the foreign affairs committee by which she had control of diplomatic matters in Germany, France, Austro-Hungary, Turkey and all other foreign affairs. He asked why in the name of good conscience Wisconsin was not satisfied with this? He knew there was so much talent, intelligence, brain and energy in the House, that it was impossible for the Speaker to assign a prominent place to every great man. (Laughter). He therefore suggested to Robeson that all members be assigned alphabetically to the committee of ways and means and of appropriations, all down to the letter N going to the former and all the rest to the latter, and then he would propose that every member be allowed one clerk and two bootblacks. (Laughter).

McLane opposed the amendment offered yesterday by King, giving the committee for the improvement of the Mississippi River the same right to report appropriation bills for that purpose that the committee on appropriations now has. He said it was bad judgment, if not bad taste, for gentlemen who represent the Mississippi Valley to arrogate to the commerce of that river so much greater importance than is attached to the other commerce of the country.

Dunnell also opposed the amendment, and declared that the interests of the Mississippi River and its tributaries would be best subserved by leaving them to the committee on commerce.

Page spoke to the same effect, and promised the committee on commerce will report a river and harbor bill that would not adopt the amendment, and that would not be railroaded through the House under suspension of the rules, and that the bill would contain appropriations for every great, important and needed improvement.

King withdrew his amendment, and he would like the committe on commerce to see how promises were kept.

Randall showed how wise it was to increase committees as business increased. The reference of bills to committees amounted to from 10 to 50 to each member of a committee already.

Here was a long running discussion, in which Randall bore the chief part, in the mode of facilitating business in the House and as to precedence of committee reports.

Briggs interposed to stop this everlasting talk and go to work.

Robinson suggested to get this out of the House and begin work, and when a gentleman moves to adjourn from Thursday to Monday, vote him down. It is by working hard we will deserve honor and not by grumbling and growling because we are not first, second or third on a committee.

Robeson moved the previous question, which was seconded.

Robinson complained that the Speaker had not allowed him to speak to a privileged question and had not kept order in the House.

In closing the debate, Williams, of Wisconsin, declared that Wisconsin has received no promises or rewards for voting for Speaker. He paid a warm tribute to the Speaker.

Robeson agreed with Hoar, that a plaster would cure sore heads, and this report did not attempt anything but to give all parts of the country their representation on committees.

Joyce moved to recommit the report and amendments.

Springer moved to recommit with instructions to report a rule for the observance of the exact proportion of the political parties in making committees, so that the minority might have the right to designate its members. Ruled out.

Joyce's motion was agreed to, 159 to 90. Among the ayes were Cassidy, George, Pacheco and Rosecrans; among the nays, Page.

AMERICAN.

Guiteau's Trial Continued.

WASHINGTON, 19.—After recess, Scoville continued his review of the evidence, and claimed that the prisoner had been free, frank and outspoken in all things; that he had converse at the jail with every one the prosecution sent there, and always without reserve, and had he been sane and playing a part, he would not have done so. Commenting upon, as he claims, the absence of motive on Guiteau's part, Scoville said: You cannot find an instance in history, you cannot suppose a case, where a man 40 years of age, who has never before committed a crime, who has never for an hour associated with criminals or bad people, who on the contrary has actually sought the society not only of the better class of people, but of Christian people; you can't conceive of such a man's committing such a crime without motive. Nothing but the theory of insanity can possibly account for such an act as Guiteau's.

Scoville then discussed the assumption that Guiteau might have been actuated by a desire for revenge, and argued the improbability of such an assumption from the fact if any ground for ill will existed on Guiteau's part, it was against Secretary Blaine, and according to the inexplicable laws of mind, it would have been executed against him. There can't possibly be shown, said Scoville, any ill will on his part toward President Garfield.

Colonel Corkhill—You seem to forget that he killed him.

Without noticing this comment, Scoville next took up the hypothesis, that the crime was committed from an overpowering desire for notoriety, and claimed that history did not point out a case where such a crime was committed purely and simply from such a motive, and that it was incompatible with reason, and impossible for the human mind to conceive such a motive as sufficient to induce any sane man to commit such a crime. That he killed the President as a disappointed office-seeker, is more than improbable, said Scoville, for he had brooded over some wrong of the kind, something of his disappointment would have leaked out. He would have said something in his intercourse with other people indicating his disappointment or bad temper on the subject. Nothing would have been more natural in the interval before he made up his mind to kill the President.

Guiteau—Oh, that's all bosh about my being a disappointed office-seeker. After the first of June my whole mind was on the political situation, and I wouldn't have taken a cabinet position had it been offered me.

Looking up from his paper a few minutes later, Guiteau cried out, with a satisfied air, "Porter is sick; I guess the Lord is attending to him."

Scoville alluded to the taunt of the prosecution that experts for the defence had gone back on them, and said in explanation, that when he reached Washington he did not know the name of a single expert. He knew Guiteau was crazy, but how to show it to the country, and to convince a jury of his countrymen was the burden that pressed on him. Then came a letter from Dr. Worcester, that little man, from the great State of Massachusetts, a State that holds the Athens of America. He wrote that if the half of what was said of Guiteau was true he was crazy. Dr. Worcester had great experience in treating insanity, and had written a book which was an accepted authority as a text book, the first work, he said, by an American author on insanity. He said, further, that he wanted to do all he could to save the Nation from the disgrace of hanging an insane man, even if his victim did happen to be the President of the United States. I felt, said Scoville, a great weight lifted from my heart. I thought here is a great and good man who cannot be bought. Well, gentlemen, this very little man from the great State of Massachusetts came.

Guiteau—He wanted a free ride to Washington. He got here, and Corkhill bought him up so he went back on that letter.

Scoville continued: Well, he came here and he saw some one.

Guiteau—He saw Corkhill, and he bought him over.

Scoville—At any rate, this great author on American insanity or this first American author, whatever it may be, could not on the stand, when asked, give me the title of his book. Scoville severely criticized the course of Dr. Worcester, and classed him with the government conspirators.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

It is understood the defense will at the conclusion of Scoville's speech renew the motion to allow the prisoner to address the jury, and will ask that he be heard in support of the motion. The effect of this, if permitted by the Court, will be to consume another day. Allowing two days for Judge Porter, and it is more than probable that he will require it, the case will probably not get to the jury before Wednesday next.

Making a Mess of It.

Colonel Reed, Scoville's associate counsel in the defense of Guiteau, was this morning accosted in the corridor of the court house with the remark: "Your associate made a mess of it yesterday in that reference to Arthur, Conkling and Grant."

"Yes," he answered, "I have hardly slept all night thinking over and regretting it. I had not the remotest idea that he contemplated doing such a thing."

"It will not help his case," said the reporter.

"Certainly not," responded Reed. "I cannot unite with him in that course and must condemn it, and I want the public to know that I do. Do you see what a wide door he opens for Porter when he comes to reply? Why, he will say if this statement is true and this man knew it and conferred with them, then he was sane. He has furnished the other side with a mighty heavy lever and placed it in the hands of a man who will use it to the fullest extent."

Reporter—There is considerable talk and very serious comments upon his course.

Reed—I suppose so. I am sorry that he took it, and wish he had not. I cannot endorse anything like that.

Hear as a Lawyer.

Hoar and Bayard made some strictures in the Senate to-day, on Hunt, of the Supreme Court, requiring the Senate to retire him. Hoar said he would saw wood the remainder of his life rather than permit his father to remain on the bench if unable to discharge his duties, or take advantage of the retirement act. Hoar's remark is supposed to allude to the unwillingness of Hunts' family to support him.

Northern Pacific Resolution.

Secretary Kirkwood, in his letter accompanying the papers received by the Senate to-day in regard to the Northern Pacific land grant, says: I have the honor to transmit herewith the report of the Commissioner of the General Land office on the subject. From this report it will be seen that the patents for lands in the Olympia district, Washington Territory, were issued on the 8th of April for 3,061 8-10 opposite a portion of the road constructed by said company previous to 1877. No patents further had been issued for 475 miles of said road constructed examined and accepted in 1880 and 1881.

Commissioner McFarland's report to Secretary Kirkwood is as follows:

General Land Office,
Washington, Jan. 16, 1882.

To Hon. S. J. Kirkwood, Secretary of the Interior:

Sir—I am in receipt by reference from the Department, of the 13th inst., for the report of Senate resolution, passed on the 12th inst. Commissioner McFarland quotes the resolution in full and continues: In accordance with instructions I have to report as follows: I know of no decision in any actual case presented by the commissioner of the General Land Office, declaring the grant to the Northern Pacific Railroad Company lapsed, which has been reserved by the Secretary of the Interior. I inclose a copy of the letter to the Register and Receiver at Bozeman, Montana, October 12th, 1877, by the then Commissioner, stating that the time for the completion of the road, under the grant, expired July 4th, 1877, but that under cited decisions there was no power in the office to enforce the forfeiture. There may have been other letters of a similar import. On May 16th, 1879, George Gray, Esq., attorney for the company, transmitted to your predecessor a map of the amended branch line of the proposed road in Washington Territory, and asked it to be accepted by the Department, and the withdrawal of lands adjusted. Accordingly, said letter and map were referred to this office for report. The report called for was made May 1st, 1879, and Gray's letter returned there with to the Department, where it is now on file. A copy of my predecessor's said report is herewith submitted. It will be observed that it presented to the Secretary the question whether or not the grant in question had lapsed. Your predecessor returned, approved the amended route map, with his decision upon the questions involved in said decision, saying the grant was in full force and effect, fully stating the reason. The above recited decision of your predecessor is the only one of which I am aware touching the lapsing of the grant in question. I know of no opinion of the Attorney-General in the premises. A full report, with maps showing the several lines of road proposed by the company, and the history of the withdrawal for the grant was made by the acting commissioner of this office, March 8, 1880, and by your predecessor, communicated to the Senate, March 12, 1880. The only patent issued to the company since July 4, 1877, was dated April 8, 1880, covering 30,168.100 acres in the granted limits. The Olympia land district, Washington Territory on the opposite portion of the road constructed previous. On Oct. 26, 1880, the Attorney General rendered his opinion on similar questions relating to the grant to the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad company.

I am very respectfully,
Signed, N. C. MCFARLAND,
Commissioner.

Indian Bill.

The bill prepared by Secretary Kirkwood for the improvement of the condition of uncivilized Indians, and which was submitted by the President to Congress, provides for the appointment of a commission of three members, to be known as the commission on Indian civilization, and for a secretary and interpreters to the commission. The bill provides that the commission, under direction of the Secretary of the Interior, shall visit such tribes as the President may designate, and authorizes them, after obtaining information, to enlighten their judgment and understanding in the premises, and enter into agreements with the Indians with their full consent for the reduction of reservations in cases in which the commission shall deem such reductions advisable. In such cases the bill provides for surveying the boundaries of the diminished reservations, to extend the public surveys over the same and over the ceded lands, and also provides for the sale of the ceded lands for the cash expenses of the survey and sale, the lands to be paid for from the proceeds of such sale and the balance to be placed to the credit of the Indians. The bill further provides for conveying the diminished reserves by patents to the Indians, giving permanent occupancy by allotment in severalty in their tribal capacity. It provides for allotment in severalty, and if it is proved an Indian has cultivated the selected acres, it will be patented to him, and cost improvements to the amount of $100 in each case shall be defrayed by the Government from surrendered lands, the proceeds of the sale of surrendered lands, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior in the erection of houses, purchasing harness, horses, cattle, farmers' implements, etc., the erection of school buildings, the payment of teachers, and for the sumistance of school teachers. When necessary, the Commission is directed, in cases where it is not thought advisable to reduce reservations, to enter into agreements for the survey of the boundaries of the reservation to extend the public surveys over them, and convey allotments in severalty. The commission is also authorized to negotiate for the cession of entire reservations, and the removal of the Indians to other reservations. Surveys and sales of such reservations to be made by the Government, and the moneys to be expended for the benefit of the Indians on the reservations to which they may be removed. Provision is also made for allotments in severalty on their new reserves. The object of the bill, as explained by Secretary Kirkwood is eventually to make the Indians self-supporting; to give them a title to their lands in severalty, and educate and civilize them. Another feature of the bill is to provide by treaty for paying the Indians within a limited period after the passage of the act of all sums which shall become payable and the principal of all trust funds now held by the United States for the Indians. And still another feature is the gradual reduction of the annual appropriation by Congress which, when the Indians become self-supporting, will cease. The bill is in full accord with the recommendations of the Secretary's annual report, and with the views of the President upon Indian affairs, as expressed in his message to Congress.

Inventions.

The following patents are issued to Pacific Coast inventors this week; Edwin A. Winters, Vacaville, Cal., box cover press; L. O. Hudson, Stockton, combined portable pantry dresser and side board; C. A. Kenkler, San Francisco, rubber stamp cabinet; G. W. Wilbur, San Francisco, sign board; W. Wood, Denver, ore washer; Wm. H. Smith, Oregon, crosscut sawing machine.

The Jurors.

NEW YORK, 19.—The *Tribune's* Washington special, commenting on the jury in the Guiteau case, says: Foreman John P. Hamlin, is a middle aged restaurant keeper, a grave intelligent looking man. The second juryman is Frederick W. Brandenberg, a cigar maker, a wrinkled, mahogany colored little man, evidently of a nervous temperament, who listens to all that is said. Henry J. Bright, the third juryman, has been mentioned as the man likely to divide the jury. He has had insanity in his family, and is spoken of as "very peculiar." He looks, however, like one of the most intelligent members of the jury, and inquiry proves that he is regarded as a man of excellent judgment. He is a retired merchant. Chas. T. Stewart, the fourth juror, is a merchant. He has a habit of listening with his eyes shut, which has given him the appearance many times during the trial of being asleep when he has not been. Thos. H. Langley, the fifth juror, is a retired merchant with a face which would lead the census taker to put him down as an Irishman without question, yet he is English. He has a habit of leaning forward in his seat and now and then of loitering around, but always with a face as impenetrable as a mask. Michael Sheehan, number sixth, is a juror about whom the government has been said in the gossip of the court room to be somewhat concerned. His answer when he was under examination were thought evasive. He is a Roman Catholic and democrat, and in business as a grocer. This completes the front row. Jos. Prather, number seven, is an intelligent looking commission merchant. C. F. Hobbs, is the juryman who lost his wife. He rests his head on his hands all day, in seeming weariness and dejection. He is a plasterer, a plain, working man. William Brannery, number nine, is a grocer, in appearance decidedly above the average intelligence. He is also said to have had insanity in his family. R. Wormley is the colored juror, still wearing a thatch over his eyes. He is a good natured looking negro. He is a laborer and plasterer. The eleventh juror, Thos. Hanlin, is a navy yard machinist, and so is George W. Gates, the twelfth juryman, and an intelligent fellow of about 30. The latter has had insanity in his family.

Mexican Railway.

The *Tribune* says: Telegraphic advices have been received in this city to the effect that the Morelos railroad has been purchased by American capitalists. The charter for this road was issued April 16th, 1878. It authorizes a line from Mexico to Morelos and the River Amasusac, with a branch to Cuernadaco, a great sugar growing district. The line as projected extends from Mexico to Acapulco on the Pacific Coast. Its total length as stated in the concession is to be 180 miles, of which 60 miles have been built. The grant gives a subsidy of $10,880 per mile, making a total subsidy of $1,680,000. Construction has so far been carried on by Mexican capitalists. Part of the road was opened for public traffic last summer. About a week later a bridge gave way under a train and frightful loss of life resulted, the victims for the most part being soldiers.

Changes his Base.

At the meeting of the Board of Education of Brooklyn, this afternoon, the committee appointed to demand from Henry Ward Beecher proofs of the statement which he made in his New Years' sermon in regard to the public schools of Brooklyn, made their report which congratulated the board on the happy termination of the quarrel by Beecher's retraction. One of the members declared the report was adding insult to injury. Beecher's statement had been spread broadcast and no denial of the statements had been made. There was no word of regret, and there was no knowing but what Beecher still believed in the truth of his statement. The report was not accepted nor was the committee discharged, and the whole subject was laid on the table for further consideration.

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