IT RESEMBLED A BEAR GARDEN.

Crazy Scenes Mark the Last Hours of Dying Congress.

GALLERIES SIMPLY PACKED.

Crowds Gaze Upon Sights that Put an Exciting Day in Wheat Pit to Blush.

Washington, March 3.—Crowded galleries looked down upon the struggling members of the House today as the closing scene of the last legislative day of this Congress were being acted. Step by step the leaders in charge of the appropriation bills pushed them through the final stages, and during every lull in the consideration of the conference reports, members clamored for recognition for limited local bills in the vain hope of rescuing them from death on the calendar.

At times the House was like bedlam. Pound as the speaker could with his gavel, it was almost impossible to preserve order, and, to the casual visitor in the gallery, the proceedings in the floor must have been about as intelligible as an evening day in the wheat pit would be to a parish priest. The noise and confusion on the floor, punctuated with the constant pounding of the speakers gavel in background with the droning voice of the clerk, made members feeling each other and talking at the same time, pages scurrying up and down the aisles—all this was utterly distracting. But the people in the galleries stayed on, and there were a dozen persons in line in the corridors waiting for every vacant seat, so great was the attraction of a dying Congress.

Mr. Walker of Massachusetts, after many unsuccessful attempts, got an opportunity during the afternoon to voice his views on currency reform and severely criticized some of his Republican colleagues.

When the great beacon light on the dome of the Capitol blazed forth as darkness fell, thousands upon thousands were attracted to the brilliantly illuminated wings of the Capitol, where the two houses were to sit out the night. In the reserve galleries of the House were congregated the elite of the society of the national capital, while the public galleries were packed to the doors. Stylishly-gowned ladies and gentlemen in evening dress added color to the occasion.

The big questions in dispute between the two houses was naturally the last to be adjusted, were compelled far into the night. Press time is time short reporters were taken. These were simply breathing spells, however, and soon the leaders were at it harder than ever.

Immediately after the reading of the journal, Mr. Bourke (Dem., Tex.) announced the death of his colleague in fitting words and the usual resolutions were adopted. The following committees were appointed to attend the funeral: Messrs. Burke, Henry (Tex.), Dinsmore (Ark.), Smith (Ky.), Breazeal (Ala.), Moon (Tenn.), McCleary (Minn.), and Maguire (N. Y.).

Mr. Walker (Rep., Mass.), who has been seeking the privilege of addressing the House for several days, secured unanimous consent to speak for an hour, however, on condition that he would not to interfere with conference reports.

The following conferees upon the bill today to provide a code of criminal procedure for Alaska were appointed: Messrs. Warner (Rep., Ill.), Gibson (Rep., Tenn.), and Maguire (Dem., Cal.), and the bill was sent to conference.

The bill to permit the reimportation of wild animals for exhibition purposes was made.

EXCHANGE OF COURTESIES.

Mr. Walker, chairman of the committee on banking and currency, then took the floor, under the privilege granted him early in the day. The announcement was largely personal, showing the efforts made by Mr. Walker during a long series of years to secure monetary legislation. In this connection he answered published criticisms of his course and went into an elaborate explanation of the long fight in his committee, which resulted in the report of a bill and its subsequent withdrawal.

His colleague, Mr. Barrett (Rep., Mass.), demanded an opportunity to speak, claiming that Mr. Walker had agreed to yield him time.

This Mr. Walker denied, saying he always kept his promises to God and man, but "not according to the standards of his colleagues."

Mr. Barrett denounced the denial as "an unmitigated falsehood."

Mr. Walker proceeded to criticize the conference report rejected by Mr. Grosvenor, chairman of the Republican caucus. He spoke to high terms of Mr. H. H. Hanna, of the Indiana monetary committee, but denounced the manner in which he and his colleagues had been shut out of the capitol for alleged currency reform.

AMBER FLUID RESPONSIBLE.

"The difficulty with these reformers," said he, "is that they obtain their facts from canvas back and terrapin and their arguments from champagne. The result is inflatory."

"Did you expect the next Congress," interposed Mr. Johnson (Rep., Ind.), "to enact any banking and currency legislation worthy of the name? I do not."

"If it does," replied Mr. Walker, "it will mean certain defeat for the Republican party. There is more dynamite connected with banking and currency than any subject ever introduced in the House. Any party that attempts the settlement of the currency question before the silver question is settled will be swamped."

Mr. Johnson declared that the Republican party was committed to currency reform and that it was the duty of the President to call an extra session, not to create a permanent standing army of 100,000 men, but to put upon the statute books currency legislation so that it could vindicate itself before the next general election. Should this be done, the party would have done its duty to all sections and its calling and election would be sure.

Mr. Cannon presented the conference report upon the sundry civil appropriation bill and moved its adoption.

Mr. Grosvenor broke the points upon which the conferees had agreed and the report was adopted. Upon the items still in dispute he moved that the House insist upon its disagreement.

PACIFIC CABLE QUESTION.

Mr. Corliss moved to concur in the Pacific cable amendment. He earnestly advocated the adoption of the Senate amendment. He said the government should build the cable.

Mr. Lewis (Dem., Wash.), also supported the Corliss motion, and Mr. Grow (Rep., Pa.) opposed it. The latter was opposed to the government ownership of a cable.

Mr. Dinsmore (Dem., Ark.) took occasion to outline the Democratic policy regarding the Philippines, in accordance with the dictum of the Democratic caucus last Monday. He declared that it was the solemn duty of the Republicans to announce a policy and pointed out the fruitless efforts of the Democrats to force a declaration.

Mr. Dockery (Dem., Mo.) argued that the government should not invade the domain of private enterprise.

Mr. Lentz (Dem., O.) supported the proposition for government ownership and operation of the cable to Honolulu.

Mr. Hepburn (Rep., Ia.) opposed the amendment. He was against government ownership.

"Does not the gentleman advocate the building of a government armor plate plant?" asked Mr. Corliss.

"I do, simply because the private armor plants are holding up the government."

The motion to concur in the Pacific cable amendment, modified so as to include the other amendment appropriating $100,000 for a cable steamer, was defeated, 77 to 102.

The House then insisted upon its disagreement to the items of the sundry civil bill still in dispute and agreed to a further conference. The House conferees were unofficially instructed to insist upon their disagreement to the Senate amendment increasing the salaries of appraisers at Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Chicago. At 5:40 p.m. the House adjourned until 8 o'clock.

CROWDS CONGREGATE.

When the House met at 8 o'clock, after the recess, notwithstanding the drizzling rain outside, great crowds had congregated in the galleries to witness the closing scenes. The hall was brilliantly illuminated and a large majority of the members were in their seats. Nine of the big conference reports were ready, and another recess was taken until 8:30 o'clock p.m.

When the House reassembled, the final conference report upon the bill to ratify the criminal laws of Alaska was adopted.

Slow progress was made on conference reports. The District of Columbia appropriation bill was sent back to conference. The deficiency appropriation bill was also sent back to conference.

The naval conferees presented a partial report, which was agreed to. It carried agreements only on routine clauses. A lengthy debate followed on the first disagreement of the Gallinger gun, and a motion to concur in the Senate amendment for the gun was defeated. Mr. Underwood (Dem., Ala.) moved to concur in the Senate amendment authorizing a private armor factory. After a short debate the yeas and nays were ordered and the motion to concur was lost, 81 to 127, and the naval bill returned to conference.

The House passed the army appropriation bill with all the Senate amendments and the bill now goes to the President.

The House agreed to a second partial report on the sundry civil bill. The Pacific cable amendment is still open, the House refusing to concur in it.

The House took a recess until 2:45 a.m. During the recess the Congressional band in a lively chorus of Hail Columbia, and other patriotic songs.

At 2 o'clock the House took another recess to 4 a.m.

The river and harbor conference agreement has been brought forward in the House and Chairman Burton has moved the approval. The Senate has adopted the river and harbor conference agreement and the bill is ready for the President's signature.

Food for Uncle Sam's Sailors.

Reading, Pa., March 4.—During this week the Carpenter Steel company of this city, shipped four carloads of provisions of various kinds to the Norfolk navy yard. They are intended for both the army and navy and some of them will be used for coast service.

FOR IRRIGATION RESERVOIRS.

(Continued from page nine.)

ral deficiency bill might be provided with.

Mr. Hale offered an amendment appropriating $2,000,000 as an emergency fund, to be expended by the President at his discretion. The amendment was accepted without debate or explanation.

Mr. Platt (Conn.) made a plea against the adoption of amendments by the Senate without due consideration. He said the present Congress would go on record as the most extravagant that had ever held a session in Washington.

Many other amendments were offered and ruled out on points of order. Among them was a proposition for a government exhibit at the Trans-Mississippi exhibit at Omaha. Among the amendments agreed to were those: Authorizing the secretary of the interior to establish at Omaha a warehouse for Indian supplies; the proposal to carry into effect existing laws providing two months' extra pay for the volunteer officers and enlisted men of the navy who served beyond their terms in the United States in the war with Spain and one month's extra pay for similar officers and men who served during that war only in the United States.

Mr. Carter offered and secured the adoption of an amendment providing that the secretary of the interior may appropriate any survey and right of way of a wagon road or railroad across or through any lands in the Yellowstone National park, if in his judgment the public interest would be subserved thereby. The bill, as amended, was passed. A bill providing for a government exhibit at and to encourage the good roads movement at the Trans-Mississippi exposition at Omaha, and appropriating $100,000 was passed.

Consideration of the army appropriation bill was then begun. The few amendments of the Senate committee to the bill were agreed to, and the reading of the measure proceeded.

Mr. Warner, a member of the committee on military affairs, offered an amendment providing that the adjutant general of the army should have the rank pay and allowances of a major general.

Mr. Pettus objected and made a point of order against it on the ground of general legislation. He said that if the amendment was pressed there should be a discussion of it.

Mr. Hawley declared there was not a man in the army who had done more or better service for the country than his Adjutant General Corbin.

At this point consideration of the army bill was suspended to enable Mr. Hale to present a partial conference report on the contested questions, such as the price of armor, which were incorporated in the report. The Senate further insisted on its amendments and asked for a new conference.

The debate on the army appropriation bill was then resumed. Mr. Pettigrew made a point of order against the amendment that it had not been referred to the committee on appropriations. The Vice-President held the latter point to be well taken.

Mr. Fender offered the same amendment, restricting its application to the present adjutant general.

Mr. Hawley made a point of order against it and he was sustained. Mr. Allen appealed from the chair's decision and by the aye and nay vote was sustained 41 to 7.

PRIVILEGES IN CUBA.

Mr. Foraker then offered the amendment, of which he gave notice a few days ago, declaring against the granting of franchises in Cuba, omitting the portion relating to the withdrawal of the United States troops in the island. The amendment as offered was as follows: "That no property, franchises or concessions of any kind whatever shall be granted by the United States or by any military or other authority whatever in the island of Cuba during the occupation thereof by the United States."

Mr. Sewell made the point of order that the amendment was not relevant, but he was overruled by a viva-voce vote.

Mr. Burrows stated that he had been informed by the war department today that no franchises had been granted and that none were to be granted.

Mr. Morgan thought the amendment premature and a dangerous innovation. He said there was many men in Cuba ready to cut each others throats, and we should go slow in our deliberations.

He contended that the matter should be left in the hands of the President. "When we had such a leader as he has been over this country's acceptance of the $3,000,000 proffered by the United States, it is evident that the people are not capable of self-government."

Mr. Platt of Connecticut also argued that the amendment was unnecessary and that it was an unjustified reassertion.

Mr. Foraker said there was no two sentiments. He disclaimed any intention of a reflection on the President, saying that he regretted the action in this direction by certain Senators. He said he was entirely with the Washington Post, giving an interview with the president of the colonial board, saying the board would not be engaged in allotting patents and the granting of franchises. Evidently, he said, the interview was to go out to the world, and then, which would not be satisfied. "If this program is to be followed," he continued, "the United States won't get out of Cuba for 50 years."

"Of course it won't," interrupted Mr. Hale.

Mr. Foraker said the President had, in fact, invited Congress to legislate when he had in his Boston speech said that the matter was now in the hands of Congress.

"Does the senator know," asked Mr. Tale, "that any attempt at legislation is to be contracted and stifled? I am so informed." He said he had been told "that you don't see the effort to suppress that any efforts at legislation."

Coming to this point, Mr. Foraker said he had not intended to go so far, as he had not supposed that there was any effort to thwart legislation.

Mr. Lodge supported the amendment. It was important that this country should be absolutely free from all the potation of favoritism in the administration of affairs in Cuba. To pursue a course dictated to precisely the line pointed was to strengthen the President's hands and not to cast an imputation, as had been charged.

Mr. Spooner contended that no franchise could be granted of longer life than one year's duration.

Mr. Hoar declared his opposition, on the ground that we have no right to trifle in the future of the Cubans. He detested there had been no occasion for the appointment of the board, because the administration of the war department by Gen. Alger had been characterized.

AMENDMENT CARRIED.

The vote was then taken on the amendment and it carried, 47 to 11. The negative votes were cast by the following senators: Allison, Fairbanks, Frye, Hanna, Hawley, Morgan, Platt (Conn.), Platt (N. Y.), Ross, Sewell, Spooner.

Mr. Tillman offered an amendment, which was agreed to, providing that the act of January 12, 1898, be so amended as to authorize the payment of the legal heirs of their representatives of the officers or men who have died or who may hereafter die in the service, the extra pay due them under the law. The bill, as amended, was then passed without division.

Mr. Frye of Maine called up the conference report on the river and harbor bill. At the conclusion of the reading of the report, Mr. Frye, in answer to a question by Mr. Carter, said that the appropriation for the reservoirs on the headwaters of the Missouri river for irrigation purposes had been stricken out from the bill.

Mr. Carter addressed the Senate at length on the action of the conferees, maintaining the vast importance to the entire Western and Southern country of constructing the reservoirs. To conclude he said: "I am not prepared to see this bill passed as it is, with recommendations, more over the presidential veto of a just and constitutional proposition."

Pending further debate on the contraction of reservoirs, the conference report on the Alaska criminal code bill was agreed to, and agreed to. It now goes to the President.

The river and harbor bill was again taken up and Mr. Warren addressed the Senate along the same lines as Mr. Carter. While he was still speaking, Mr. Mantle moved a motion to recommit the bill to the conference committee with the idea of securing a concession of the House conferees on the reservoir proposition.

The motion pressed Mr. Frye, in charge of the bill, and he took the floor and made an impassioned appeal for speech upon the motion. He said that it would be a disaster if the bill as it would be impossible to obtain an agreement and delay would be fatal to the bill. He said that there had been over two hours devoted to the consideration of the bill, and he enumerated every one of them would do better the work of the conference than the conferees who were now in the Senate chamber.

The motion to recommit was defeated, 41 to 21.

A motion by Mr. Hawlesworth that the Senate go into executive session was defeated, 40 to 16.

Mr. Warren then resumed his speech. Mr. Warren yielded the floor to Mr. Stewart, who made a form of the reservoir opposition. He was followed by Mr. Wilson (Wash.). Mr. Wilson gave a wonderful and beautiful word-picture of the great country west of the Mississippi, and of the inexhaustible mineral and agricultural resources of the Rocky Mountain and Pacific coast States. He strongly favored the reservoirs.

At 1 o'clock Mr. Morgan offered a joint resolution, which he believed would determine the pending controversy over the irrigation proposition.

The resolution provided that all public lands (mineral or not) or some-and in the several States be granted the States in which the lands are, and the net proceeds of those lands when sold or leased to be applied by the States to the purposes of irrigation.

Mr. Morgan objected to the consideration of the resolution. He announced that he did not propose to allow anything to be done so long as he could object until the pending report on the river and harbor bill was disposed of.

At 1:10 this (Saturday) morning Mr. Warren yielded to Mr. Pettigrew, who spoke in support of the irrigation amendment.

At 1:25 a. m. Mr. Mantle interrupted Mr. Warren, who had resumed his speech, and noted the absence of a quorum. A call of the roll developed the presence of sixty-two senators. Mr. Mantle then renewed his motion to recommit the report to the conference but it was decisively defeated.

BUSLEY AND SAMPSON.

At 2:15 a. m. the Senate went into executive session to consider nominations, and the naval nominations were taken up, and the discussion of the relative merits of Admirals Sampson and Busley began. It was argued that the bill which had been passed by the House, providing that Admiral Sampson should be promoted, was made to read that the bill should be so amended as to read that the bill should be so amended as to read that the bill should be so amended as