

By Telegraph.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 28.—The Chair laid before the Senate the unfinished business, being the bill to confirm pre-emption and homestead entries of public lands within the limits of railroad grants, in cases where such entries had been made under the regulations of the land department. The pending amendment being that submitted yesterday by Howe, providing that nothing in the act shall be construed to affect the title which the State of Wisconsin or its assignees may have to lands granted to the State to aid in constructing a railroad, approved June 3, 1856.

The bill, having been considered as in committee of the whole, was reported to the Senate and the amendment made by the committee agreed to, and the bill passed, yeas 44, nays 9.

The bill as passed is as follows:—
“Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled, that all pre-emption and homestead entries or entries in compliance with any law of the U. S. of public lands made in good faith by actual settlers upon tracts of land of not more than 160 acres, each within the limits of any land grant prior to the time when notice of withdrawal of lands embraced in such grant was received at the local land office of the district in which such lands are situated, or after their restoration to market by order of the General Land office, and where pre-emption and homestead laws have been complied with and the proper proofs thereof have been made by parties holding such tracts or parcels, they shall be confirmed and patents for the same shall issue to parties entitled thereto.

That when, at the time of such withdrawal as aforesaid, a valid pre-emption or homestead claim existed upon any lands within the limits of any such grants, which afterward were abandoned and under the decisions and ruling of the land department were re-entered by pre-emption or homestead claimants, who have complied with the laws governing pre-emption or homestead entries, or shall make the proper proofs required under such laws, such entries shall be deemed valid and patents shall issue therefor to the person entitled thereto.

That all such pre-emption and homestead entries which may have been made by permission of the land department, within the limits of any land grants at the time or subsequent to the expiration of such grant, shall be deemed valid and a compliance with laws and the making of the proof required shall entitle the holder of such claim to a patent therefor.

WASHINGTON, 28.—The President, pro tem, laid before the Senate the House bill fixing the rate of postage on third class mail matter, which was read by Little and referred.

Hitchcock presented a memorial of the Legislative Assembly of New Mexico, asking the passage of an act to admit that Territory into the Union as a State on an equal footing with the other States; referred.

Morton, from the committee on privileges and elections, reported back the papers relating to the claim of J. D. Eastis for U. S. Senator from Louisiana, with a written report declaring that in the opinion of the committee there is no vacancy in the Senate; B. P. S. Pinchback having been elected U. S. Senator for the term commencing March 4th, 1873. He recommended that the papers be laid on the table and printed. So ordered.

Saulsbury said as a member of the committee on privileges and elections, he dissented from the conclusion of the majority in his judgment. There was a vacancy existing at the time of the election of Eastis, and his credentials, although irregular in form, were all that was necessary to entitle him to this seat, and at a proper time he Saulsbury would state the grounds of his dissent.

Merriman, member of the committee, also dissented and said he had given his reasons in the past at considerable length.

WASHINGTON, 28.—In the Senate today Booth presented a resolution of the California legislature, asking an appropriation for the construction of a breakwater at San Louis

Obispo in that State, and declaring the harbor of that place a port of entry; referred to committee on commerce.

Kelley, of Oregon, presented a petition of citizens of Oregon, asking for the passage of lands within the grant to the Northern Pacific Railroad Co., the same as that of other public lands; referred to committee on public lands.

A message was received from the House of Representatives announcing the death of Mr. Starkweather, and the action of the House thereon. The Senate as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, adjourned till Monday.

WASHINGTON, 31.—Booth submitted a resolution requesting the Secretary of the Interior to transmit to the Senate copies of correspondence had with the committee of the 43rd Congress, respecting taxation of lands granted to States and corporations. Agreed to.

Spencer, from the committee on military affairs, reported with an amendment the Senate bill to relinquish the interest of the U. S. in certain lands to the city and county of San Francisco. Placed on the calendar.

Bills were introduced and referred as follows:—

By McMillan, to exempt all vessels engaged in navigation of the Mississippi river and its tributaries, above the Port of New Orleans, from entry and clearance. Referred.

Wright submitted a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution of the U. S., so as to elect the president and vice-president by direct vote of the people. Referred.

Also a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution so as to elect U. S. senators by direct vote of the people of the U. S. Referred.

Also a bill to amend the act of June 22nd, 1874, for the relief of settlers on R. R. lands. Referred.

To extend the jurisdiction of district and circuit courts. Referred.

Booth submitted a resolution requesting the secretary of the interior to transmit to the Senate copies of the correspondence with the committee of the forty-third Congress respecting taxation of lands granted to States and corporations. Agreed to.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 28.

The House went into committee of the whole, Haskins in the chair, on the military academy appropriation bill. Banning spoke of times being hard, money scarce, taxation heavy and it was the duty of Congress to cut off every unnecessary expenditure and exercise the most rigid economy. In doing this much aid or assistance might not be expected from the other (republican) side of the House, because his (democratic) side had taken away the luxury which the republicans had enjoyed at the public expense, and had exposed to the country their extravagance and wicked waste of public money. He was not surprised that the republican members charged the reductions in this bill to the ignorance of the committee which reported it, because the republican legislators arrogated to themselves all the wisdom and regarded the people as ignorant. Success had crazed their brains and turned the heads of the members of the republican party until, in place of Lincoln, Stanton, and Chase, battling for freedom and against fraud and corruption, the country was burdened with the present extravagant administration, with its whiskey, its Indian ring, the Credit Mobilier, its Pacific mail subsidies, its real estate pool. He trusted no democratic member would be diverted from the path of duty by such republican maneuvering as had been seen on the amnesty bill. There was a plain, straightforward duty, easy to comprehend—in investigation and exposure of all frauds and reductions of the burdens of the people by cutting off every unnecessary expenditure. Coming down to the details of the bill, he argued in justification of the reductions made in regard to the pay of professors and cadets.

Randall, chairman of committee on appropriations, replied to criticisms made on the bill in yesterday's debate, and disclaimed all desire to embarrass the efficiency of West Point academy. If he thought the bill would have such an effect he would not advocate it. He showed that under the bill the pay and emoluments of the senior

professors would be \$4,600 a year and of the junior professors \$4,100, and he thought that fair and liberal. These professors had an advantage over professors at other colleges in the fact that in their old age they had the privilege of being retired on three-fourths pay.

The proposition, stripped of all its difficulties, was whether \$4,600 a year was sufficient for the senior professors and \$4,100 for the junior professors. On the question of the pay of cadets he showed that the increase made in 1867 was only in the shape of an allowance of an additional ration, and he claimed that in point of fact a cadet had no interest in the matter, inasmuch as his entire pay went to his support, and none of it ever went into his own pocket, except that at the end of four years, \$86, being the saving of two dollars per month was given him for the purchase of a military suit. There was not the slightest feeling on the part of the committee to interfere in any particular with these young men. It would be far from him to embarrass these young gentlemen, who hoped to be and probably would be of as much service to the country as their predecessors in the academy. He wanted to repel the idea that there had been any purpose on the part of the committee to embarrass the administration of West Point academy, which had shed so much honor on the country.

Holman said that from 1802 to 1845 the allowance to cadets had been only sixteen dollars a month, from 1845 to 1857, thirty dollars a month, from 1857 to 1864, which covered a period of great expensiveness, 500 dollars a year. The proposition was now simply to go back to the pay of that period, except that it was increased by forty dollars a year, and he had no doubt whatever that the allowance of 540 dollars per year would be ample. The provisions of the bill in respect to the pay of the professors were extremely liberal.

He said this was the first of a series of bills to be reported by the committee on appropriations. He therefore appealed to members not to let their sympathies in favor of West Point Academy get the better of their judgment. If their judgment governed them, this bill would pass substantially as reported, and if it did then the people, who were now looking to Congress with earnestness never before known, would begin to breathe freely and indulge in hope.

Danforth believed the cutting down of pay of West Point cadets was retrenchment uncalled for by any party or by any portion of the people.

Wilson (Ga.) would be ashamed to commence reduction in that direction. Why had not the committee on appropriations reported a bill to cut down the pay of members? Holman—My friend should not be too anxious about that. He shall have an opportunity to vote upon that proposition. We propose to have retrenchment all along the line.

Wilson—That is all right. When that bill is brought in, I will support it readily. But I tell them they are demoralizing their own friends when they ask us to cut down the pay of West Point cadets.

Without action on the bill the committee rose and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 28.

The Speaker announced the following select committees—on real estate, Pool and Jay Cooke; on indebtedness, Glover, New, Lewis, Pratt and Smith of Penn.

Elkins, of New Mexico, presented the memorial of the Territorial Legislature for an enabling act for the admission of New Mexico as a State; referred.

On motion of Whithorn, chairman of committee on naval affairs, a select committee, consisting of Whithorn, Willis, and Damford, was authorized to take testimony at Norfolk in regard to alleged abuses and fraud at that navy yard.

Singleton, from the committee on appropriations, reported the consular and diplomatic appropriation bill, which was made the special order for Wednesday next. It appropriates \$922,847, and fixes the pay of the Ministers to Great Britain, France, Germany and Russia at \$14,000; to Spain, Austria, Brazil, Mexico and Japan, \$9,000 each; to Italy, \$8,000; to Portugal, Switzerland, Belgium, Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, Turkey, Venezuela, and Hawaiian Islands at \$6,500 each; to Chili and Bolivia, one mission, \$8,500; to Peru, Ecuador and Columbia, one mission, \$8,500; to the Argentine Republic and Paraguay and Uruguay, one mission, \$8,500; to Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras, Salvador and Nicaragua, one mission, \$10,000; and to Liberia \$4,000.

Springer introduced bills to prohibit American citizens from holding slaves in foreign countries, and to regulate elections in Utah Territory.

WASHINGTON, 28.—Durham spoke against the reduction of the pay of cadets.

The question was taken on Hale's amendment and was rejected, 68 to 69.

Cox complained that members of the republican side of the House were obstructionists on reform. He had an order from Gen. Townsend, signed by order of the Secretary of War, in which he read that “no officer either active or retired shall directly or indirectly without being called upon by proper authority suggest or recommend any action to any member of Congress on a question of military business.” He inferred that the gentlemen from Maine and Illinois, Hale and Hurlbut, had had the advantage of some suggestions from officers, from professors at West Point, or perhaps from Gen. Townsend. This very curious order of General Townsend contained also this sentence, “The foregoing is not intended to prevent officers from illustrating measures before Congress which have received the sanction or favor of the President, the Secretary of War, or the General of the army.”

Hale said—“I do not propose to take any lessons in economy from the gentleman from N. Y.”

Hale impugned Cox's record retrospectively and prospectively, as to voting in favor of retrenchment; he dared not vote only as his masters bid him.

Cox, in reply to Hale, said, “The gentleman cannot find any wrong in my record or votes, either for retrenchment or prodigality, to justify him in saying I have any masters except the people my constituents. What did he mean by ‘my masters’?” On what meat doth this our Caesar feed that he is grown so great as to talk that way to me?”

Hale—“Does the gentleman want me to answer?”

Cox—“Yes, and promptly.”

Hale—“I mean the leading dominating influence of the party, of which the gentleman is an active and honored member, influences which he will be bound to follow, and so far as I may say so, without being offensive, to obey.”

Cox—“That belongs to the future. The gentleman, Hale, has been known in the last three or four congresses as ‘Blaine's little cub.’”

Garfield rose to a point of order, but Hale got in, in uproar and confusion, his retort in these words, “I will put myself against the buzzing fly that was shoos out of reputation and fame by the late member from Massachusetts (Butler).”

Garfield again called the gentlemen to order, and Cox asked him, in a tone of injured innocence, “Why did you allow him to put me in that predicament?”

Hale, defiantly—“I do not call the gentleman to order. I hope he will be allowed to go on, and that I shall be allowed to explain.”

Garfield—“I call the gentleman (Cox) to order and insist on his words being taken down, alluding to Hale as ‘Blaine's little cub.’”

Cox (in a pacific mood)—“I withdraw them. It is not worth while to take them down.”

Hale (in a belligerent mood)—“I am willing to put ‘shoo fly’ against them.”

Cox—“That's a small business, it is only copying an old joke.”

The chairman inquired from Garfield whether he withdrew his call for the offensive words to be reduced to writing.

Garfield said he would not insist on it.

Cox—“I was only provoked into using them by the very unparliamentary language of my friend from Maine. He had no right to attribute to me any servility. I never obeyed the behests of Southern men. All through the war I stood by my country. He had no right to indulge in that. I never voted for Southern claims. I did not vote either for the centennial bill. Did the gentleman vote for it?”

Hale—“I did.”

Cox, triumphantly—“You voted for it this session, but last year you voted against it, and gave good reasons for it, too.”

Hale rose to make a remark.

Cox—“You sit down, if you please.”

Hale—“I have good reasons for both votes.”

Cox—“Now keep courteous.”

The chairman interrupted the proceedings and said—“The Chair feels it his duty to say emphatically, that in a dignified house, as this ought to be, this constant clapping of hands and cheering is unbecoming, and the Chair will appeal to the good sense and judgment and common civility and decency of the members in the body in asking them to refrain from it, and he will say to persons occupying seats in the galleries, that they attempt it the Chair will once order the galleries to be cleared. The Chair cannot maintain order on the floor of the House unless every member observes the dignity and courtesy appropriate to the House of Representatives.”

Cox said he entirely approved the Speaker's ruling and said when the democratic side of the House after a hard old struggle to get into power, after scoundrelism, after swindling, after prodigality, many years, never straight, always crooked, on your side of the House (republican) and on the part of the administration, comes in here with one little bill for West Point, not seeking to reduce expenditures beyond what they were in 1867, it is opposed by republican economists eating their own words and gold back on their own record. In the name of the people who are distressed, in the name of honest men everywhere, I protest in one word against the whole body of that side of the House, as wanting in fact and square economy. All you republicans favor retrenchment and the people cry for it every when and yet on the very first opportunity, when there is a honest brought in which cuts down luxurious living at West Point, the whole body of republicans fly in the face of their own platform and their previous record.

Conger and Garfield opposed reductions and Lamar favored them.

Hale defended himself from the charge of inconsistency brought against him by Cox in voting against the Centennial bill in Congress and for it this Congress and apologized for his unparliamentary language.

Cox—“The gentleman from Maine began these personal remarks by remarking that there were masters over me.”

The committee proceeded to vote on the amendments. Hamilton amendment, making the pay of cadets \$340, without additional ration, was agreed to. All other amendments, either in regard to cadets or professors were voted down. Without disposing of the bill the committee rose.

WASHINGTON, 31.—The Speaker called on the States for bills. Under the call bills were introduced and referred as follows:—

By Ward, to repeal duties on packages, commissions, transportation and covering of goods, and to provide for the responsibility of the Government for all imported merchandise while in its custody, also for the reduction of duty on lace manufactured by hand.

By Morrison to revise and simplify the tariff; referred to committee of ways and means. This bill provides that in lieu of the present rates, on and after July 1st, 1875 the following rates shall prevail: cigars and cigarettes and cheroots all kinds \$3.50 per pound; tobacco in leaf, unmanufactured, and stamped, 40 cents per pound; woollen goods classified from 3 to 10 cents per pound; flannels and blankets from 20 to 40 cents per pound; ready made clothing and wearing apparel of every description, \$2 per pound; coffee 3 cents per pound; tea 18 cents per pound; oranges in boxes 18 cents per box. There are many other articles in the list. The bill ends with a proviso that alcohol be exclusively used for the manufacture of ether, chloroform and volatile alkali, may be withdrawn from bond free of the specific internal revenue tax per gallon in quantities not exceeding one thousand gallons at any one time, unless such regulations and bonds as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe.

The President sent to the Senate to-day the following nominations—Frederick Morley, Michigan to be Agent and Consul General, Cairo, Egypt; Wm. P. Ross, Indian Territory, to be Agent of the consolidated agencies of Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw and Seminole.