

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE FORTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE SENATE.

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, March 4, 1885.

Hon. THOMAS A. HENDRICKS, Vice-President of the United States, having taken the oath of office at the close of the last regular session of the Forty-eighth Congress, took the chair.

PRAYER.

Rev. E. D. HUNTLEY, D. D., Chaplain to the Senate, offered the following prayer:

Thou who art the same yesterday, to-day, and forever, we are grateful for another opportunity of appearing before Thee in the attitude of humble worship, and though we tarry but a moment in Thy presence, it shall suffice to quicken our consciences and to remind us that for the performance of all public as well as of all private duties we are amenable to Thee.

We come to thank Thee for the mercies of the past and to implore the continuance of Thine all-favoring providence.

We come to ask Thy blessing upon the retiring President of these United States and upon him whose presidency of this Senate has added steadiness and safety to its legislation and maintained impartially the rights and privileges of all its members. And though these officers transfer their responsibilities to other hands, we ask that they may never cease to be the objects of Thy care and the recipients of Thy godly favor.

We ask Thy blessing upon him who is about to be inducted into the high office of President of this Republic. May his life and health be precious in Thy sight. May he receive the hearty, honest, and ungrudging support of all good citizens; and may he, together with those who shall be constituted his advisers, be so under the direction of Thy Holy Spirit, that his administration shall prove a signal blessing to this nation and so a blessing to the world.

Be Thou with him who is to preside over the deliberations of this body, the Vice-President of the United States. As the eyes of the servants look unto the hand of their masters, so may his eyes look unto the Lord his God. May he be faithful to his trust, and may he be supplied with wisdom from on high for the discharge of all his duties.

We ask Thy special blessing upon those who for years have been honorable members of this Senate, and who this day retire from the public service appertaining to this body. May the years which remain to them be crowned with tokens of Thy love. May goodness and mercy follow them all the days of their life. And may those who come to take their places be men who, fearing the Lord and working righteousness, shall be acceptable to Thee.

Regard in mercy all who occupy advisory, legislative, or judicial relations to the Government. Dispose their hearts to keep Thy law, and may they so direct in public matters that all nations shall be constrained to recognize us as a happy and prosperous people, and to ascribe our happiness and our prosperity to the readiness with which we yield ourselves to Thy suggestions and the promptness with which we follow Thy commands.

Our petition is before Thee, Lord, and we humbly pray that Thou wilt answer it according to thy riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Amen.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. Senators, in entering upon the duties of the office to which I have been chosen, may I express the hope and the desire that our relations may at all times be harmonious and agreeable. I beg to assure you that in the discharge of my duties I will seek to observe the most absolute impartiality.

It is some years since I was connected with the business of the Senate, and it may be that I shall find myself less familiar with its rules,

usages, and modes of proceeding than formerly, and therefore I may have occasion to lean upon your indulgence and to ask your support.

The Senate is now in session by virtue of the proclamation of the President, which the Secretary will read.

PROCLAMATION.

The Chief Clerk (Mr. CHARLES W. JOHNSON) read the following proclamation:

By the President of the United States of America:

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas objects of interest to the United States require that the Senate should be convened at 12 o'clock on the 4th day of March next to receive and act upon such communications as may be made to it on the part of the Executive:

Now, therefore, I, Chester A. Arthur, President of the United States, have considered it to be my duty to issue this my proclamation, declaring that an extraordinary occasion requires the Senate of the United States to convene, for the transaction of business, at the Capitol, in the city of Washington, on the 4th day of March next, at 12 o'clock at noon on that day, of which all who shall at that time be entitled to act as members of that body are hereby required to take notice.

Given under my hand and the seal of the United States at Washington, the 27th day of February, in the year of our Lord 1885, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninth.

CHESTER A. ARTHUR.

By the President:

FRED'K T. FRELINGHUYSEN,
Secretary of State.

SWEARING IN OF SENATORS.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The names of the newly elected Senators whose credentials are on file will now be called by the Secretary, and they will come forward and receive the oath of office four at a time.

The Chief Clerk read the names of—

William B. Allison, of the State of Iowa.

Joseph C. S. Blackburn, of the State of Kentucky.

Joseph E. Brown, of the State of Georgia.

Wilkinson Call, of the State of Florida.

As their names were called the respective Senators-elect came forward, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to them.

The Chief Clerk called the names of—

James Donald Cameron, of the State of Pennsylvania.

James B. Eustis, of the State of Louisiana.

William M. Everts, of the State of New York.

Wade Hampton, of the State of South Carolina.

As their names were called the respective Senators-elect came forward, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to them.

The Chief Clerk called the names of—

John James Ingalls, of the State of Kansas.

James K. Jones, of the State of Arkansas.

John P. Jones, of the State of Nevada.

Justin S. Morrill, of the State of Vermont.

As their names were called the respective Senators-elect came forward, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to them.

The Chief Clerk called the names of—

Henry B. Payne, of the State of Ohio.

Orville H. Platt, of the State of Connecticut.

James L. Pugh, of the State of Alabama.

John C. Spooner, of the State of Wisconsin.

As their names were called the respective Senators-elect came forward, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to them.

The Chief Clerk called the names of—

Leland Stanford, of the State of California.

Henry M. Teller, of the State of Colorado.

Zebulon B. Vance, of the State of North Carolina.

George G. Vest, of the State of Missouri.

Daniel W. Voorhees, of the State of Indiana.
Ephraim K. Wilson, of the State of Maryland.
As their names were called the respective Senators-elect, except Mr. Wilson, came forward, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to them.

SENATORS PRESENT.

The Senators-elect having been sworn and taken their seats in the Senate the following Senators were present:

From the State of—

Alabama—John T. Morgan and James L. Pugh.
Arkansas—Augustus H. Garland and James K. Jones.
California—John F. Miller and Leland Stanford.
Colorado—Thomas M. Bowen and Henry M. Teller.
Connecticut—Joseph R. Hawley and Orville H. Platt.
Delaware—Thomas F. Bayard and Eli Saulsbury.
Florida—Wilkinson Call and Charles W. Jones.
Georgia—Joseph E. Brown and Alfred H. Colquitt.
Illinois—Shelby M. Cullom.
Indiana—Benjamin Harrison and Daniel W. Voorhees.
Iowa—William B. Allison and James F. Wilson.
Kansas—John J. Ingalls and Preston B. Plumb.
Kentucky—James B. Beck and Joseph C. S. Blackburn.
Louisiana—James B. Eustis and Randall L. Gibson.
Maine—William P. Frye and Eugene Hale.
Maryland—Arthur P. Gorman.
Massachusetts—Henry L. Dawes and George F. Hoar.
Michigan—Omar D. Conger and Thomas W. Palmer.
Minnesota—Samuel J. R. McMillan and Dwight M. Sabin.
Mississippi—James Z. George and Lucius Q. C. Lamar.
Missouri—Francis M. Cockrell and George G. Vest.
Nebraska—Charles F. Manderson and Charles H. Van Wyck.
Nevada—James G. Fair and John P. Jones.
New Hampshire—Austin F. Pike.
New Jersey—John R. McPherson and William J. Sewell.
New York—William M. Everts and Warner Miller.
North Carolina—Matt. W. Ransom and Zebulon B. Vance.
Ohio—Henry B. Payne and John Sherman.
Oregon—Joseph N. Dolph.
Pennsylvania—James Donald Cameron and John I. Mitchell.
Rhode Island—Nelson W. Aldrich and Jonathan Chace.
South Carolina—M. C. Butler and Wade Hampton.
Tennessee—Isham G. Harris and Howell E. Jackson.
Texas—Richard Coke and Samuel Bell Maxey.
Vermont—George F. Edmunds and Justin S. Morrill.
Virginia—William Mahone and H. H. Riddleberger.
West Virginia—Johnson N. Camden and John E. Kenna.
Wisconsin—Philetus Sawyer and John C. Spooner.

INAUGURATION CEREMONIES.

The persons entitled to admission on the floor of the Senate Chamber having been admitted to the places reserved for them, the President, Hon. GROVER CLEVELAND, of New York, entered the Senate Chamber, accompanied by the late President, Hon. CHESTER A. ARTHUR, and Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. RANSOM, and Mr. HAWLEY, members of the committee of arrangements, and was escorted to a seat in front of the Secretary's desk, and the late President and the members of the committee were seated on his right and left.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The Sergeant-at-Arms will now execute the order of the Senate relative to the inaugural ceremonies of the President of the United States.

Those in the Senate Chamber proceeded to the platform on the central portico of the Capitol in the following order:

The marshal of the District of Columbia and the marshal of the Supreme Court.

Ex-Presidents and ex-Vice-Presidents.

The Supreme Court.

The Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate.

The Committee of Arrangements.

The President and the President-elect.

The Vice-President and the Secretary of the Senate.

Members of the Senate.

The Diplomatic Corps.

Heads of Departments.

Members of the House of Representatives and members-elect, governors and ex-governors of States, officers of the Senate and officers of the House of Representatives.

All other persons who have been admitted to the floor of the Senate Chamber.

The President-elect delivered the following

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

FELLOW-CITIZENS: In the presence of this vast assemblage of my countrymen I am about to supplement and seal by the oath which I shall take the manifestation of the will of a great and free people. In the exercise of their power and right of self-government they have committed to one of their fellow-citizens a supreme and sacred trust; and he here consecrates himself to their service.

This impressive ceremony adds little to the solemn sense of responsibility with which I contemplate the duty I owe to all the people of the land; nothing can relieve me from anxiety lest by any act of mine their interests may suffer, and nothing is needed to strengthen my resolution to engage every faculty and effort in the promotion of their welfare.

Amid the din of party strife the people's choice was made; but its attendant circumstances have demonstrated anew the strength and safety of a government by the people. In each succeeding year it more clearly appears that our democratic principle needs no apology, and that in its fearless and faithful application is to be found the surest guarantee of good government.

But the best results in the operation of a government, wherein every citizen has a share, largely depend upon a proper limitation of purely partisan zeal and effort, and a correct appreciation of the time when the heat of the partisan should be merged in the patriotism of the citizen.

To-day the executive branch of the Government is transferred to new keeping. But this is still the Government of all the people, and it should be none the less an object of their affectionate solicitude. At this hour the animosities of political strife, the bitterness of partisan defeat, and the exultation of partisan triumph should be supplanted by an ungrudging acquiescence in the popular will, and a sober, conscientious concern for the general weal. Moreover, if, from this hour, we cheerfully and honestly abandon all sectional prejudice and distrust, and determine, with manly confidence in one another, to work out harmoniously the achievements of our national destiny, we shall deserve to realize all the benefits which our happy form of government can bestow.

On this auspicious occasion we may well renew the pledge of our devotion to the Constitution, which, launched by the founders of the Republic and consecrated by their prayers and patriotic devotion, has for almost a century borne the hopes and the aspirations of a great people through prosperity and peace, and through the shock of foreign conflicts and the perils of domestic strife and vicissitudes.

By the Father of his Country our Constitution was commended for adoption as "the result of a spirit of amity and mutual concession." In that same spirit it should be administered, in order to promote the lasting welfare of the country, and to secure the full measure of its priceless benefits to us and to those who will succeed to the blessings of our national life. The large variety of diverse and competing interests subject to Federal control, persistently seeking the recognition of their claims, need give us no fear that "the greatest good to the greatest number" will fail to be accomplished if in the halls of national legislation that spirit of amity and mutual concession shall prevail in which the Constitution had its birth. If this involves the surrender or postponement of private interests and the abandonment of local advantages, compensation will be found in the assurance that thus the common interest is subserved and the general welfare advanced.

In the discharge of my official duty I shall endeavor to be guided by a just and unstrained construction of the Constitution, a careful observance of the distinction between the powers granted to the Federal Government and those reserved to the State or to the people, and by a cautious appreciation of those functions which, by the Constitution and laws, have been especially assigned to the executive branch of the Government.

But he who takes the oath to-day to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States only assumes the solemn obligation which every patriotic citizen, on the farm, in the workshop, in the busy marts of trade, and everywhere, should share with him. The Constitution which prescribes his oath, my countrymen, is yours; the Government you have chosen him to administer for a time is yours; the suffrage which executes the will of freemen is yours; the laws and the entire scheme of our civil rule, from the town meeting to the State capitals and the National Capitol, is yours. Your every voter, as surely as your Chief Magistrate, under the same high sanction, though in a different sphere, exercises a public trust. Nor is this all. Every citizen owes to the country a vigilant watch and close scrutiny of its public servants and a fair and reasonable estimate of their fidelity and usefulness. Thus is the people's will impressed upon the whole framework of our civil polity—municipal, State, and Federal—and this is the price of our liberty and the inspiration of our faith in the Republic.

It is the duty of those serving the people in public place to closely limit public expenditures to the actual needs of the Government economically administered, because this bounds the right of the Government to exact tribute from the earnings of labor or the property of the citizen, and because public extravagance begets extravagance among the people. We should never be ashamed of the simplicity and prudential economies which are best suited to the operation of a republican form of government and most compatible with the mission of the American people. Those who are selected for a limited time to manage public affairs are still of the people, and may do much by their example to encourage, consistently with the dignity of their official functions, that plain way of life which among their fellow-citizens aids integrity and promotes thrift and prosperity.

The genius of our institutions, the needs of our people in their home life, and the attention which is demanded for the settlement and development of the resources of our vast territory, dictate the scrupulous avoidance of any departure from that foreign policy commended by the history, the traditions, and the prosperity of our Republic. It is the policy of independence, favored by our position and defended by our known love of justice and by our power. It is the policy of peace, suitable to our interests. It is the policy of neutrality, rejecting any share in foreign broils and ambitions upon other continents and repelling their intrusion here. It is the policy of Monroe and of Washington and Jefferson—"Peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations; entangling alliance with none."

A due regard for the interests and prosperity of all the people demands that our finances shall be established upon such a sound and sensible basis as will secure the safety and confidence of business interests and make the wage of labor sure and steady; and that our system of revenue shall be so adjusted as to relieve the people of unnecessary taxation, having a due regard to the interests of capital invested and workmen employed in American industries, and preventing the accumulation of a surplus in the Treasury to tempt extravagance and waste. Care for the property of the nation and for the needs of future settlers requires that the public domain should be protected from purloining schemes and unlawful occupation.

The conscience of the people demands that the Indians within our boundaries shall be fairly and honestly treated as wards of the Government, and their education and civilization promoted, with a view to their ultimate citizenship; and that polygamy in the Territories, destructive of the family relation and offensive to the moral sense of the civilized world, shall be repressed. The laws should be rigidly enforced which prohibit the immigration of a servile class to compete with American labor, with no intention of acquiring citizenship, and bringing with them and retaining habits and customs repugnant to our civilization.

The people demand reform in the administration of the Government and the application of business principles to public affairs. As a means to this end civil-service reform should be in good faith enforced. Our citizens have the right to protection from the incompetency of public employes who hold their places solely as the reward of partisan service and from the corrupting influence of those who promise and the vicious methods of those who expect such rewards. And those who worthily seek public employment have the right to insist that merit and competency shall be recognized instead of party subserviency or the surrender of honest political belief.

In the administration of a government pledged to do equal and exact justice to all men there should be no pretext for anxiety touching the protection of the freedmen in their rights or their security in the enjoyment of their privileges under the Constitution and its amendments. All discussion as to their fitness for the place accorded to them as American citizens is idle and unprofitable, except as it suggests the necessity for their improvement. The fact that they are citizens entitles them to all the rights due to that relation and charges them with all its duties, obligations, and responsibilities.

These topics, and the constant and ever-varying wants of an active and enterprising population, may well receive the attention and the patriotic endeavor of all who make and execute the Federal law. Our duties are practical, and call for industrious application, an intelligent perception of the claims of public office, and, above all, a firm determination, by united action, to secure to all the people of the land the full benefits of the best form of government ever vouchsafed to man. And let us not trust to human effort alone; but humbly acknowledging the power and goodness of Almighty God, who presides over the destiny of nations, and who has at all times been revealed in our country's history, let us invoke His aid and His blessing upon our labors.

The Senate returned to its Chamber at 1 o'clock and 5 minutes p. m., and the Vice-President took the chair.

HOOR OF MEETING.

Mr. EDMUNDS. Mr. President, I move that the daily hour of meeting of the Senate be 12 o'clock meridian until otherwise ordered.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The question is on the motion of the Senator from Vermont as to the hour of meeting.

The motion was agreed to.

NOTIFICATION TO THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. ALLISON. I offer the following resolution. I ask its immediate consideration:

Resolved, That a committee of three members be appointed by the Vice-President to wait upon the President of the United States and inform him that a quorum of the Senate has assembled, and that the Senate is ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The consideration of this resolution is asked. Is there objection? The Chair hears none.

The resolution was agreed to; and the Vice-President appointed Mr. ALLISON, Mr. BECK, and Mr. VOORHEES as the committee.

Mr. EDMUNDS. I move that the Senate do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; and (at 1 o'clock and 7 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned.

THURSDAY, March 5, 1885.

Prayer by Rev. J. G. BUTLER, D. D., of Washington city.

The Vice-President on taking the chair was greeted with applause in the galleries.

The Journal of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

EXPENSES OF INAUGURAL CEREMONIES.

Mr. SHERMAN submitted the following resolution; which was considered by unanimous consent, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the necessary expenses of the recent inaugural ceremonies be paid out of the contingent fund of the Senate, subject to the approval of the Committee on Contingent Expenses.

NOTIFICATION TO PRESIDENT.

Mr. ALLISON, Mr. BECK, and Mr. VOORHEES, the committee appointed to wait upon the President of the United States, appeared at the bar of the Senate, and

Mr. ALLISON said: Mr. President, the committee appointed under a resolution of the Senate to wait on the President of the United States and inform him that a quorum of the Senate is present in the Senate Chamber and ready to receive any communication from him, respectfully report that they have performed that duty, and in response thereto the President of the United States informed them that he would presently communicate with the Senate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Mr. O. L. PRUDEN, one of the secretaries of the President, appeared at the bar of the Senate and said: Mr. President, I am directed by the President of the United States to deliver to the Senate sundry messages in writing.

Mr. SHERMAN. I move that the Senate proceed to the consideration of executive business.

The motion was agreed to; and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of executive business. After twenty-five minutes spent in executive session the doors were reopened, and (at 12 o'clock and 40 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned.

FRIDAY, March 6, 1885.

Prayer by Rev. J. G. BUTLER, D. D., of the city of Washington.

The Journal of yesterday's proceedings was read and approved.

BACKBONE AND OTHER RAILROAD LAND GRANTS.

Mr. VAN WYCK. I ask for the consideration of a resolution which I send to the desk.

Mr. INGALLS. Let it be read for information.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The resolution will be read.

The Chief Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior be directed to inform the Senate whether patents have been issued for the lands granted in 1871 to the New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and Vicksburg, popularly known as the Backbone Railroad; if so, for what number of acres, to what corporation or individuals, whose receipt was taken for the same, when signed, whether unusual means were used to hasten the preparation and execution of said patents, whether the clerical force employed worked nights and Sunday so they might be completed before March 4, what day they were ready for the signature of the President, what the necessity for any special execution to secure the completion and signature before the 4th day of March, whether anything was done to protect the actual settlers in their rights to any such lands; also whether previous to the 4th day of March anything was done or written in regard to any other of the unearned land grants, the forfeiture of which had been considered by the Forty-eighth Congress.

Mr. EDMUNDS. I object to the present consideration of the resolution, and I move that the Senate proceed to the consideration of executive business.

Mr. HOAR. I ask the Senator from Vermont to withhold the motion that I may have a communication printed.

Mr. EDMUNDS. I withdraw the motion for the present; but I object to the present consideration of the resolution.

Mr. VAN WYCK. Then it will go over until to-morrow. I ask that it may be printed.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The resolution will be printed, unless there be objection, and go over until to-morrow.

INDEBTEDNESS OF PACIFIC RAILROADS.

Mr. HOAR. I have a communication from the president of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, made to me during the last session of Congress, in regard to certain legislation then proposed affecting the interests of that company. I supposed then that the measure to which he referred would be before the Senate for discussion, and withheld his communication until the discussion should arise, but as it was not reached, I desire that the communication may be printed for the information of the Senate. I ask unanimous consent that the letter lie on the table and be printed for the information of the Senate.

Mr. VAN WYCK. I did not hear the Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. HOAR. It is a letter from Mr. Adams in regard to the Union Pacific Railroad Company. I desire to have it printed for information.

Mr. VAN WYCK. I desire to say in this connection that after the