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BACKING UP GEN. LEE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—The House passed a resolution to back up General Lee's resignation on the 23rd. The bill was introduced by Mr. Hendon and passed by a vote of 100 to 80.

Some warlike resolutions in congress. Resignation of the Consul General for Lack of Positive Support Sets Up Senators and Representatives—Retirement Delayed for a Time—A Telegram From Gen. Lee.

WARLIKE RESOLUTIONS. WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—The positive announcement that Consul General Lee had tendered his resignation contingent on action by the administration to sustain him in his efforts to protect Americans in Cuba has stirred up both House and Senate, and in consequence decidedly warlike resolutions have been introduced in both bodies.

Senator Allen of Nebraska followed with a resolution declaring it the sense of the Senate that effective steps should be taken to protect the lives of Americans in Cuba and that United States battleships should be sent to Cuban waters. It went over.

Mr. Hill of New York presented a resolution, which was agreed to, asking the secretary of state for all correspondence, etc., relating to American prisoners in Cuba not heretofore transmitted.

Mr. Morgan presented a favorable report from the committee on foreign relations on a resolution demanding the immediate and unconditional release of Julio Sanguilly, now imprisoned in Havana. It went over until tomorrow, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Sherman stating that action was expected then.

General Lee's Resignation. Fitzhugh Lee, consul general of the United States at Havana, has resigned but has been requested to remain at his post for a time at least. The following cablegram was this morning received at the state department: 'HAVANA, Feb. 22.—Secretary of State: My resignation mailed per steamer. LEE.'

Secretary Olney replied to this almost immediately, urging General Lee to withhold his resignation until something could be done, and declaring his retirement at this time and in such a manner "would cause untold trouble."

After sending his dispatch Secretary Olney hurried over to the White House with General Lee's telegram in his pocket and talked over the situation with President Cleveland for nearly an hour before the other members of the cabinet arrived to attend the regular meeting. The President fully approved Mr. Olney's action in requesting General Lee to withdraw his resignation for the present. The matter was not laid before the cabinet.

HOT POLITICAL DEBATE.

Civil Service Reform Scored in the House—Grosvenor Against It.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—The House sent the naval bill, the last of the appropriation bills, to the Senate yesterday. The feature of the day was an exceedingly interesting political debate on the subject of civil service reform.

More animosities have been created between the executive and legislative branches of the government by patronage, said he, than all the other questions combined. It was a quarrel over patronage that drove from the Senate most of the brilliant men who have been in that body in thirty years.

The pending bill was lost sight of in the political maelstrom that followed. Mr. Flynn, Republican, of Oklahoma aroused many of the Republicans to applause by declaring that if he could have his way he would wipe out the civil service law and fill every office with a Republican.

Mr. Grosvenor ridiculed the civil service system, and predicted, amid uproarious applause from the Republicans, that the tide was rising which would sweep the law out of existence and give the young men of this country a chance.

Mr. Bailey again secured the floor, and after remarking upon the "peculiar relations" existing between the gentleman from Ohio (Grosvenor) and the incoming president, asked sentimentally if the Democrats were warranted in assuming that his utterances were to be accepted as a notice that the civil service law is to be repealed.

Mr. Grosvenor replied to Mr. Bailey's intimation with a frankness that again set the Republicans wild. "If the gentleman from Texas had been here in the fiftieth congress," said he, "he would know that the first bitter contention I ever had on this floor with William McKinley was on this subject of civil service reform, he taking one side of the question and I the other. When it was over I did not think he had lost any confidence in my partisanship and I had lost none in his statesmanship and ultimate good sense."

"Ultimate is good," shouted Mr. Bailey, as the house applauded. Mr. Grosvenor proceeded to characterize the civil service law as "conspiracy," which had proved "the greatest power of the spoilsman." He declared that "Pendleton and the Democrats" had introduced this "patent medicine" into our government. In conclusion, he denied that he pretended to represent the views of the President-elect.

Then Mr. Brosius, as chairman of the civil service committee, had a final word. He declared that Mr. Grosvenor's remarks "flashed the sword in the heart of the president-elect," and read from Mr. McKinley's letter of acceptance his statement that in the matter of civil service reform he "would take no backward step."

"Is that treason?" cried Mr. Brosius, glowering down on Mr. Grosvenor. "If it is, charge it home to the greatest citizen of this republic." Mr. Walker, Republican, of Massachusetts, concluded the debate.

REFORM EDITORS. The Fusionists Out of the National Association and Organize a New One. KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 25.—The branch of the National Reform Press association, which met in this city Monday, yesterday gave up all hopes of reconciliation with the "middle-of-the-road" wing, which met in Memphis, Tenn., in response to the call of President Vandervoort of Nebraska. The Kansas City contingent decided to let go its hold on the old organization and go it alone. The result is the United Reform Press association, national in its scope, which, while it will not combat the old N. R. P. A., will have nothing whatever to do with it.

ARSON AND FRAUD.

A Fort Scott Bankrupt and His Wife Accused of Various Crimes.

Fort Scott, Kan., Feb. 27.—Eugene H. Mikessel and his wife, Maggie E., who recently failed in business here and at Arcadia, were arrested to-day charged with having set fire to their dwelling here. Mikessel is in jail and his wife is under guard at a hotel. The house was burned on the night of February 18, while the two were away from home. The arrests are a primary step to detect alleged fraud in the failure of their business.

Chicago, Feb. 27.—An electric car on the 103d street line was caught between two trains going in opposite directions on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroad yesterday afternoon. The car carried four passengers, besides the motorman and conductor, and three out of the six were killed outright. The other three are severely injured, and one or more of them may also succumb. The accident is said to have been due to the recklessness of the motorman.

Crespo Urges Promptness. CARACAS, Venezuela, Feb. 27.—The message of President Crespo on the boundary line treaty negotiated by the United States with England has been read to the Venezuelan congress. It is in favor of the treaty in all its points and asks congress to give first consideration to the protocol, arguing that the protocol is of the utmost importance to the country at large.

Bloomington, Ill., Feb. 27.—Vice President Stevenson and family will return to Bloomington from Washington immediately after the inauguration and will re-occupy the Stevenson homestead on Franklin square. Arrangements have been made to tender a popular welcome to the ex-vice president on the evening of March 9.

Oklahoma Law Null and Void. PERCY, Okla., Feb. 27.—It has come to light that the law making it a crime for officers of banks to receive deposits when the banks are in failing condition is null and void, because it never passed the lower house of the Legislature. Many bankers have been convicted under it, and there are fifty or more outstanding indictments in the territory.

Manfield, Mo., Feb. 27.—The large brick court house at Hartsville, Mo., burned yesterday morning, together with all the county records, including the late assessment books, which had been approved, and the Circuit court docket for March term. Origin, incendiaries.

Boise, Idaho, Feb. 27.—Representative H. S. Jaines has made an affidavit setting forth that he was bribed to vote for Henry Heitfeld for United States senator. It is said affidavits of a similar character have been made by two other members.

Des Moines, Feb. 19.—In the revised rules of practice in the United States patent office bearing date of February 9, 1897, occurs the following: "It is the design of the constitution and the patent laws to secure to the inventor not that which is a matter of common right, nor the property of another, but what he has himself created. The duty of the office is to grant nothing which already belongs to the domain of the public, but, on the other hand, not to withhold from the inventor any portion of the full benefit of his invention. Its function is to draw the line with even justice between the two." A patent for an invention is synonymous with a patent or deed for land. The latter fixes the meter and bounds of the land so the owner knows where it is relative to adjoining land.

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Quotations From New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Omaha and Elsewhere. OMAHA. Butter—Creamery separator, 18 @ 20 Butter—Choice fancy country, 17 @ 18 Cattle—Fresh, 10 @ 12 Spring Chickens—Dressed, 7 @ 7 1/2 Turkeys—Dressed, 11 @ 12 Potatoes—Per bush, 1 3/4 @ 2 00 Cranberries—per bushel, 6 00 @ 6 75 Lemons—Choice Messina, 3 00 @ 3 50 Honey—Fancy white, 1 1/2 @ 1 25 Apples—Per bushel, 1 1/2 @ 1 25 Beans—Handpicked Navy, 1 25 @ 1 35 Potatoes—Choice, 2 25 @ 2 50 Sweet Potatoes, per bushel, 1 30 @ 1 50 Oranges, per box, 4 00 @ 5 00 Hay—Upland, per ton, 4 00 @ 5 25 Apples, per bushel, 1 50 @ 2 50 S. OMAHA STOCK MARKET. Hogs—Light mixed, 3 30 @ 3 40 Hogs—Heavy weights, 3 20 @ 3 35 Beef steers, 3 00 @ 3 00 Bulls, 2 25 @ 3 25 Milk and springers, 30 00 @ 33 50 Cows, 25 00 @ 27 50 Calves, per bushel, 1 25 @ 1 50 Cows, 1 75 @ 3 35 Hefers, 1 25 @ 3 30 Steers and feeders, 1 75 @ 2 50 Sheep—Westerly, 4 00 @ 4 75 Sheep—Lamb, 4 00 @ 5 00 WHEAT—No. 2 Spring, 74 @ 74 1/2 Corn, per bu., 22 @ 22 Oats, per bu., 15 @ 15 1/2 Pork, 8 00 @ 8 50 Lard, 3 85 @ 4 10 Prime steers and exports, 4 85 @ 5 15 Calves, per bu., 1 30 @ 1 50 Hogs—Medium mixed, 3 40 @ 3 75 Sheep—Lamb, 4 00 @ 5 10 NEW YORK. Wheat—No. 1 hard, cash, 85 @ 85 1/2 Corn—No. 2, 21 @ 21 1/2 Oats—No. 2, 12 @ 12 1/2 Pork, 8 25 @ 8 75 Lard, 3 90 @ 4 25 ST. LOUIS. Wheat—No. 2 red, 84 @ 84 1/2 Corn, per bu., 20 @ 20 1/2 Oats, per bu., 14 @ 14 1/2 Hogs—Mixed packing, 3 20 @ 3 50 Cattle—Native beefs, 3 20 @ 4 25 KANSAS CITY. Wheat—No. 2 hard, 80 @ 81 Corn—No. 2, 22 @ 22 1/2 Oats—No. 2, 16 @ 16 1/2 Cattle—Stockers and feeders, 3 30 @ 4 25 Hogs—Mixed, 3 30 @ 4 25 Sheep—Lamb, 3 10 @ 3 65 Sheep—Muttons, 2 50 @ 3 75

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