

THE PRESIDENT'S RIGHT TO SIGN

Can He Affix His Signature to Bills After Adjournment of Congress?

Washington special: Representative Hulse of South Carolina, who was chairman in the last congress of the house committee on public buildings and grounds, presented a bill to the president to-day regarding the much-vexed question of the latter's right to sign bills after the adjournment of congress.

HENRY WARD BEECHER DEAD.

The Eminent Divine Passes from Earth to His Eternal Home.

New York, March 8.—The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher began to sink slowly after midnight, and the watchers at his bedside soon saw that the end was near.

Mr. Beecher's death spread rapidly to all parts of the city and Brooklyn was soon a city of mourning.

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NEW YORK, despatch of the 7th: It was a weary night that the members of the Beecher household passed last night.

One by one they would move in and out of the death chamber, taking their turns at the dreary vigil.

Mr. Beecher had kept watch over the sick man most of the night, fearing that he might pass away in her absence.

Mr. Beecher has been gradually failing during the night. His death is not, however, anticipated at present.

A meeting of the parishioners of Plymouth church was held in the lecture room, commencing at 8 p. m.

The Rev. Dr. Halliday opened the meeting with a moving prayer, in which he desired that their beloved pastor might not even be allowed to seem to suffer.

To the beloved members of Plymouth Church, I cannot speak my thanks to each and all of you for the sympathy and love and devotion manifested in these last dark, sad days for your pastor.

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HENRY WARD BEECHER.

A Biographical Sketch of the Life and Death of the Great Preacher.

Henry Ward Beecher was born in Litchfield, Conn., on the 24th of March, 1803.

He was educated at the Litchfield academy, and at the Andover theological seminary.

He was ordained as a minister of the gospel in 1827, and served churches in various parts of the country.

He was called to the pastorate of the Plymouth church in New York in 1839, and there he remained for the remainder of his life.

He was a man of great energy and ability, and his preaching was characterized by its power and truth.

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THE LAST WORDS SPOKEN.

Impressive Memorial Services Over the Remains of Henry Ward Beecher.

New York despatch: All Brooklyn was mourning to-day over the death of Henry Ward Beecher.

The funeral services were held in a large number of churches, the vicinity of Plymouth church was crowded.

Members of Company G, Thirtieth regiment, of which Beecher was chaplain, were stationed at the doors of the church, and no one was allowed to enter without a ticket.

While the vast crowd of people gathered outside of the church, the lady members of the congregation were working within.

The whole interior was turned into a flower garden, and a fragrant perfume of roses pervaded the air.

The facade of the gallery was covered with potted plants. The pulpit was loaded with flowers and floral emblems sent by friends and different organizations.

The casket was placed on a catafalque of white roses and white carnations and white smilax, and directly in front of the reading desk a canopy of the highest covering of the casket could be seen.

There was nothing to indicate the presence of death except the stillness which prevailed the room and the hushed conversation of the mourners.

It was nearly 10 o'clock when the doors were thrown open and those who had been waiting without for nearly three hours were allowed to enter.

In the first four seats to the right of the centre aisle, pews were reserved for the relatives of the deceased.

Mr. Beecher's family was not present and the only pew was filled with flowers.

Mr. Beecher was in church a few minutes before the doors were opened, but left with her sons before the crowd entered.

Before the pews reserved for the family were seated the officers of the Thirtieth regiment, and then came members of the legislative committee.

Behind these were delegates from nearly every social, political and religious organization in New York or Brooklyn.

There was also a delegation of the Colored Minister's association present.

At 10:30 the Rev. Dr. Hall, accompanied by the Rev. S. B. Halliday, commenced to read the opening service of the Protestant Episcopal burial service, which was followed by instrumental and vocal music.

After the conclusion of the oration by Dr. Hall the minister admitted the people to the body.

The line of people waiting to view the remains was nearly a quarter of a mile long. It is estimated that fully 25,000 people attended the services in the various churches, and fully twice that number were gathered in the streets in the neighborhood of Plymouth church.

Those in charge had intended to close the doors of the church at 3 p. m., but when the appointed hour arrived the crowd was so dense that it was decided to give an hour more.

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FLOWERS ON EVERY HAND.

Emblems of Mourning Not Exhibited in the Presence of the Deceased.

New York despatch: In spite of the rain, the streets in the vicinity of Beecher's residence were crowded with people this morning.

At 8 o'clock a squad of police took their stations in front of the residence. A large number of floral designs were received, among them being two wreaths from Ellen Terry and Henry Irving, and a pillow of white roses from Mrs. S. W. White.

The coffin rested in the center of the front parlor and was surrounded by a bank of fragrant flowers, and on all sides could be seen floral emblems from the friends and admirers of the dead divine.

The remains were dressed in a suit of black broadcloth. The features were natural and there was a smile upon the face.

Early in the morning before services, Mrs. Beecher went into the parlor and stood by the coffin for some time. She bent over the remains, and after printing a kiss upon the cold lips was led into a back room.

Shortly after 3:30 the Rev. Charles H. Hall, of the church of the Holy Trinity, commenced to read the burial service from the ritual of the Episcopal church, and a quartette sang several gospel hymns.

While the services were in progress in the house, company G, known as the Plymouth company of the Thirtieth regiment, was drawn up in front of the house on Hicks street. Only members of the family and a few intimate friends were present during the services at the house.

At the conclusion of the services at the house, Dr. Hall spoke for fifteen minutes. He was very much affected.

The members of the family retired after the remarks were finished, and the casket was carried to the hearse, which stood in the rear of the Thirtieth regiment.

The Plymouth company took position as guards of honor, and the procession moved to the church. The casket was then carried in and placed on a dais, in front of the pulpit.

There will be music in the church during the whole of the time which the body lies in state.

The will of Beecher was read this afternoon in the presence of the family. It is probable it will not be filed for probate, as one of its main provisions authorizes members of the family to settle upon themselves the division of what therein left.

The chief feature of it is that Mrs. Beecher's first provided for. The contents of it will not be made known unless the will is probated, as it is the wish of the family that no publication of its contents should be made.

To-night the Beecher residence was brilliantly lighted and everything around the house was made bright as possible.

Mrs. Beecher had been in her late husband's room a great portion of the afternoon, looking over his papers. It seems a delight to her to hear where her husband spent much of his time.

Members of the family are dressed in bright clothing as though going to church on Sunday, and everything around was made light and cheerful as possible, in accordance with the expressed wish of Beecher in case of his death.

Hundreds of people called during the day and left cards, including Henry George and the Rev. Dr. McGlynn.

All this afternoon a long line of people was passing through the church to view the remains and continued to increase and the rush was so great to gain admission that it was found necessary to increase the force of officers around the church door.

The throng was made up of almost all nationalities. As the day advanced the lines of people extended until it reached Fulton street, then down one side of the next block and up the other with another wing across Henry street.

It is estimated that nearly 20,000 people passed before the catafalque during the day. There were so many wreaths and bouquets left on the bier that a special place had to be made near the platform at the foot of the pulpit, to receive them.

The mayor of Brooklyn issued a proclamation saying: "Inasmuch as Friday, March 11, has been designated for the public funeral ceremonies of Henry Ward Beecher, and the common council of this city has directed that the public offices shall be closed on that day, I earnestly request the citizens of Brooklyn, so far as may be practicable, to close their respective places of trade and business as a mark of respect to the dead and as a token of sympathy to those who, living, mourn the loss."

SOME WASHINGTON NOTES.

The following nominations were confirmed by the senate just before adjournment: Henry R. Harris, of Georgia, third assistant postmaster general; D. H. Maury, of Virginia, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the United States of the Republic of Colombia; James M. Trotter, of Massachusetts, recorder of deeds in the District of Columbia; G. W. Julian, of Livingston, Ind., surveyor general of New Mexico; Chauncey R. Sultz, of Missouri, assistant treasurer of the United States; St. Louis, Mo.; Adolphus W. Greely, fifth cavalry, chief signal officer with the rank of brigadier general; Captain James H. Gillis, of the District of Columbia, to be commodore in the navy.

The postmaster general has made arrangements for a daily fast mail service between the east and the southwest. By the new arrangement a special train of postal cars on the Pennsylvania line will leave New York at 8 p. m. and will reach St. Louis at 2:45 a. m. and the mail be transferred at once to a special train of postal cars on the Missouri Pacific for Kansas City, Omaha and other western points.

The following reappointments as presidential postmasters were made on the 7th, the senate having failed to act on the original nominations: Wm. T. Kirk, Atlanta, Ill.; Wm. F. White, Barry, Ill.; Samuel P. Tufts, Centralia, Ill.; Agnes Ross, Ravenswood, Ill.; Joel H. Johnson, Woodstock, Ill.; James P. Carleton, Iowa Falls, Ia.; Richard Burke, What Cheer, Ia.; Geo. W. Lewis, Black River Falls, Wis.

The supreme court has rendered a decision in the case brought from Tennessee, which involves the right of one state or municipality to impose a license tax on a drummer or traveling salesman from another state seeking to sell goods by sample or otherwise. The decision is that the taxation is interference with interstate commerce and is therefore unconstitutional.

The order of the treasury department directing that trade dollars be redeemed must be deposited in the sub-treasury either at New York or San Francisco, called forth vigorous protests from holders in Boston, New Orleans, St. Louis, and from the west generally, and the department was asked to recind that order. In response to this demand Secretary Fairchild stated that immediate steps would be taken by the department to provide for the redemption of the coins at any of the sub-treasuries.

The rush of travel to the west is taxing the energies of the B. & M. to furnish sufficient cars.

MAYOR MEANS, of Grand Island, is a candidate for re-election.

DEATH OF CAPT. EADS.

The Engineer of National Repute Suddenly Passes Away.

St. Louis, March 10.—A telegram was received here late this afternoon, announcing the death of Captain James B. Eads, which occurred at Nassau, New Providence, Bahama Islands, March 8, the cause of death being pneumonia.

The last news received from Captain Eads by his family in St. Louis was a telegram on Tuesday from Mr. Karner, his agent in New York, saying that he had received a letter, which must have left Nassau on the 5th, and that Mr. Eads was dangerously ill with congestion of the lungs. Although he was in delicate health, no such fatal termination was anticipated by his family here.

It is impossible to get any further particulars relative to the death of Captain Eads. The dispatch chronicling the fact was received from Nassau by the steamer Lizzie before services. Mrs. Beecher went into the parlor and stood by the coffin for some time. She bent over the remains, and after printing a kiss upon the cold lips was led into a back room.

Shortly after 3:30 the Rev. Charles H. Hall, of the church of the Holy Trinity, commenced to read the burial service from the ritual of the Episcopal church, and a quartette sang several gospel hymns.

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MISCELLANEOUS NEWS NOTES.

The Hon. Patrick Egan has been elected president of the Nebraska branch of the Irish national league.

The Canadian parliament has been convened for April 17.

The new Austrian minister to the United States will not leave until March 19.