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Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill.

Below are a few remarks made by Congressman Pollard in the House a few days ago on the question of appropriating money recommended by the president to enable the Interstate Commerce Commission to carry out the publicity feature of the Hepburn railway rate act passed two years ago, and which we think will be of interest to our readers:

Mr. Chairman, the gentleman who has just taken his seat says that he is in favor of enforcing every provision of the Interstate Commerce act, and yet he takes it upon himself to oppose an appropriation to carry into effect the very thing that he says he is in favor of.

Mr. Keifer. The gentleman is mistaken.

Mr. Pollard. Now, Mr. Chairman, there is only one question, I believe in this whole discussion. This House two years ago enacted, and gentlemen opposing this amendment without exception voted for, what is known as the "Hepburn railroad rate act." In that act is section 20, which provides for the publicity of the accounting system of railways.

The question before the House today is whether we are in favor of enforcing that section. That is the only section before the committee; and if we are, will we give the Interstate Commerce Commission sufficient money to enforce it. The whole question revolves around the point as to the amount of money necessary to carry into effect this provision of the law. This very section which the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. Townsend) seeks to amend; limits the amount of money that can be used for that purpose to \$50,000, and the gentleman from Minnesota certainly will agree that that is true.

Mr. Tawney. Will the gentleman from Nebraska explain to the committee on what basis he insists that \$250,000 are necessary?

Mr. Pollard. I will be very glad to.

Mr. Tawney. Give us the details of the expenditures.

Mr. Pollard. I will be very glad to enter into that. What I was

objecting to in the gentleman from Minnesota was his statement by which he undertook to leave the impression on the House that the Commission could use the whole \$750,000 for the enforcement of this section.

Mr. Tawney. I was asked the question by the gentleman from Michigan if it was not a fact that they had \$750,000 in addition, and if any part of that could be used, and I said it could be.

Mr. Pollard. If I misquote the gentleman, I beg his pardon, but I understood him to say that they had \$750,000 that could be used for that purpose, while the section in question limits the amount that could be used for that purpose to \$50,000. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Harlan and Mr. Moseley, who appeared before the committee, made estimates as to the number of men that would be necessary to carry into effect the terms of this section. The Committee on Appropriations, I have no doubt, have given some consideration to that question. We have a right to assume that they have given a great deal, or they would not come in here and cut down the amount from \$750,000 to \$50,000. That is a pretty heavy drop to get, it seems to me. The men who are charged with the responsibility of enforcing this law say it will take \$350,000.

Mr. Tawney. The drop was made by the Commission itself, I will say to the gentleman, from \$750,000 to \$350,000.

Mr. Pollard. But in the hearings it shows that the Commission dropped from \$750,000 to \$500,000.

Mr. Tawney. Yes, and then dropped to \$350,000.

Mr. Pollard. Now I understand they will be satisfied with \$350,000 simply because they cannot get more. This is not a question of introducing a general system of inspection of railroads throughout the country. That is not contemplated at all. Under the figures given by the gentleman from Minnesota, if \$350,000 are appropriated, the Commission will have only 140 inspectors at its disposal, and yet the gentleman from Minnesota and the gentleman from Ohio and others who oppose this amendment contend that it will

create a vast army of inspectors, while from their own figures it will only permit of the employment of 140 inspectors. We all know the extent of the railway of the country, and we know also that 20 men, which is all that can be employed if this appropriation of \$50,000 is carried, are insufficient, manifestly insufficient, to carry into effect the terms of this act. It seems to me that if there is one thing that Congress ought to do above every other it is to grant to that Commission sufficient funds to carry into effect the act that we passed here two years ago. We all understand the intricacy of the questions involved, and we all understand the great evil that existed before the law passed and prior to the enactment of what is known as the "Elkins anti-rebate act." We all understand how difficult it is to find out what companies are paying rebates and to whom they are paid.

Under the terms to the Hepburn act the railroads are required to keep a uniform system of accounts. This amendment will enable the Commission to carry out the terms of that act. It will enable them to inspect these accounts and ascertain what railroads are violating the law. This amendment, if adopted, will make it practically impossible for the railroads to give rebates. It provides funds that will enable the Commission to examine their books. It will throw on the searchlight. That of itself will tend to prevent rebates.

(Here the hammer fell).

Personal.

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MADE INTO STABLE

HUMBLE PURPOSE SERVED BY MAUSOLEUM OF TYRANT.

Curious Memorial of the Ruin Solano Lopez Brought on Paraguay—Country Being Brought Back Slowly to Prosperity.

A curious memorial of the tyrant Solano Lopez, who wasted and depopulated Paraguay between 1862 and 1870, stands in the city of Asuncion, the capital of the republic. It is the large and imposing mausoleum that he built for the ultimate housing of his body.

But it was never used for that purpose. When Lopez was overtaken and killed as he was fleeing his enemies did not care to give him a decent burial.

Dr. Vallentin, the German geographer, who has just written a book on Paraguay, says that it puzzled the people to decide what to do with the mausoleum. It was finally turned into a stable and is still serving that humble but useful purpose.

Grass is growing upon the lofty cupola and weeds protrude from every crevice in the walls. It is a monument to the ruin Lopez brought upon his country and himself.

Lopez has often been called the Nero of the nineteenth century, but some historians say that he was worse than Nero. Dr. Baez, the historian of Paraguay, says that the tyranny of Lopez was the most barbarous that history records. The only excuse ever made for him is that he was insane.

He was president of Paraguay and intended to make himself king. He provoked and waged a five years' war with the united countries of Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay. He had a crown made in Paris to be ready for the coronation just as soon as he could declare himself king of more than half of South America. His idea was to build up a great kingdom, not by developing its resources, but by founding a military despotism.

He became a despot wholly unrestrained by law. All his countrymen who opposed him were shot or imprisoned. He had his own mother and one of his sisters publicly flogged in the street. Another sister was kept a prisoner in chains.

Every boy and man who could carry a gun was impressed into the army, and as the end drew near he compelled many hundreds of women to fight in the ranks. The whole country was in ruins when a bullet ended his life. In 1861 Paraguay had a population of over 1,000,000. There were only about 200,000 human beings in the country in 1872. The land was nothing but a waste.

It had been completely stripped of cattle, horses, sheep and goats, not a plantation was in cultivation, and there was no money to buy seed, for Lopez, and the woman Lynch, whom he had brought with him from Paris the year before he became president, had shipped all the remaining gold and silver to England for a rainy day.

Paraguay has recovered slowly from this experience. She now has a population of 500,000, immigrants are coming in growing numbers, and agriculture and commerce are advancing every year.

Cost of Mine Timbers.

The cost of every ton of anthracite is increased eight cents by the expense of the mine timbers. To supply these timbers, says the Vegetarian Magazine, requires each year the product of approximately 150,000 acres of forest.

Timber is used for cross ties for tram roads in the main haulage ways, as wooden rollers and as props. A set of gangway timber consists of two legs, commonly nine or ten feet long and about 13 inches in diameter, and a collar six or seven feet long. These sets are placed on an average at intervals of five feet; one gangway frequently contains 1,000 sets, and ten gangways to a colliery is not an unusual number.

The average life of the timber is hardly above two years. Forty-five per cent of the timbers are destroyed by decay, while breakage, wear and insects destroy the remainder. By peeling the timbers and properly seasoning them and especially by giving them a treatment in oils or chemical salts, their length of service is materially increased.

Relics of a Great Composer.

Among life's largest ironies is the fate that often befalls the manuscript of a genius. Of no one is this truer than of Beethoven. When this greatest of composers was alive he was incessantly in financial difficulty. After his death all his manuscript were sold at auction—over 200 of them there were—yet they brought hardly \$500. This would be at the rate of about two dollars and a half apiece. The other day the manuscript of his G major sonata for violin and piano, written in R 2, was sold by a man in Leipzig to a man in Florence for 42,500 marks, or \$10,200.

What the Little Workers Do.

The bee, humble worker as he is, yet last year paid the interest on the national debt of the United States, \$24,310,326, and had a surplus remaining of nearly \$700,000. This is almost as much as the \$28,000,000 which was the value of raw cane sugar produced in the country. Yet beside the farmyard chicken the bee sinks into insignificance. Poultry products this year are worth \$600,000,000, more than any crop in the country except corn.

DOTTED TEARS WON SUIT.

Extraordinary Letter by Father of Spurned Girl Read in Court.

A thousand dots were in a letter which was read in a breach of promise action at Chester Sheriff's court recently.

"These are not kisses, but tears," the letter, which was of an extraordinary character, explained.

Last year a Cheadle cab proprietor, named Arthur Morrell, met Elizabeth Ann Rhodes, an Ashton-under-Lyne mill forewoman, who is now 20 years old, at a wedding party.

He apparently fell in love and wrote her many letters and post cards. In February last they became engaged, and the wedding was to have taken place in September, but the cab proprietor wrote asking the young woman to "let him free," as their "social conditions were not quite equal."

The young woman's father in reply wrote the letter, which was read in court:

"When you go to church and sing your praise try to think of the lass you have now spurned and left with a broken heart.

"When you uplift your voice in prayer, may the heaven be as brass. May God repay thee for what thou hast done."

Then followed 1,000 dots and these words:

"These are not kisses, but tears from a mother's and daughter's hearts, which before they knew you never had a care.

"May you for every tear that falls and every throb in their hearts repent it millions and millions of times over and over again, and every time you look at a lass or hear the church bells chime at night when you go to sleep, and at morn when you awake, may you think of this letter and a lass with a broken heart."

The jury awarded £40 damages.—London Express.

Some Suggestions As to Lying.

There is not so much objection to lying as there is to a lack of art in the telling of a lie. It is no use to tell a lie unless you are going to accomplish your purpose. Lies can do the work whether they are discovered or not. It is all in the manner of telling them. In the first place never tell a lie when the truth will do just as well. This serves to establish your reputation and gives your lies a standing they could not otherwise gain. Never tell a big lie to gain a small object, nor tell a little lie to gain a big object. Let all your lies be big and lusty fellows, and let them have some big business in hand. These two rules are really imperative if you expect to become a successful and proficient liar. Little lies for little things are not worth telling.

Finally, always have the courage of your lies. Stick to 'em. If you are not brave enough to stand by your own lies, why send them out only to be betrayed? A man is the rankest sort of a coward that refuses to give his lie any support when it crawls back to him from the buffetings, beatings and rough usage of the populace. Brace it up with manufactured corroborative evidence and artificial confirmation and send it out again renewed in spirit and vigor.—Washington Times.

Killed 189 Ducks at One Shot.

Harry Malcolm, ex-deputy game warden, sends to the Sun a photograph of a remarkable nine-barrel gun with a single trigger, which has the effectiveness of a Gatling gun in slaughtering ducks. A single pull of the trigger fires off all the barrels, and one discharge is said to have killed 189 ducks.

Mr. Malcolm, assisted by Messrs. R. H. Cox, W. M. Lyon and Sidney Barber, arrested a party of hunters who were using the gun to the great detriment of the wild duck hunting sport on the Potomac river. Seven men were taken along with the gun, which is of a type forbidden by law. Mr. Malcolm says that for years they have been unlawfully killing ducks and driving others from the Potomac river and tributary creeks.

The capture of the outfit, he says, is a great relief to the owners of lands in the neighborhood. With the gun were captured four sloops, seven big guns, 100 decoys, seven skiffs, 150 pounds of powder and 85 dead ducks.—Baltimore Sun.

Arnold's Question Well Answered.

There are renewed efforts to paint Benedict Arnold in clean, white colors. They remind a writer of the following anecdote: On one of his raids Arnold captured an American officer in Virginia. After a few days he said: "Captain, what would our countrymen do with me if they caught me?" "Well, sir," replied the captain, "if I must answer the question, I should say that if my countrymen should catch you they would first cut off your lame leg, which was wounded in the cause of freedom and virtue at Quebec, and bury it with the honors of war; then they would hang the remainder of your carcass on a gibbet!"

BARRIERS BRUSHED AWAY

By S. E. Kiser

"After all," she said, "why should we be slaves of conventionality? Why should we stupidly go about concealing our real feelings from each other and making pretenses that each of us knows are insincere?"

"There is no reason why we should," the young man replied. "Then let us begin from this moment to be perfectly frank. We have known each other long enough to brush away the barriers which society insists on placing between men and women. Why should we limit ourselves to talking about stupid books or making foolish remarks about tiresome musical performances?"

"I am ready to break away from conventionality right now. Go ahead and brush away a barrier or two. I'll help if you need assistance. What one do you propose to tackle first?"

"Let me see. Well, suppose we begin by ceasing to 'Miss' and 'Mister' each other? You call me Helen and I'll call you Tom."

"All right, Helen. Let's not go to the performance of 'Il Trovatore' next Thursday night. I don't care much for it, and I'm dead sure that I could have a lot more fun with the money if I spent it in some other way."

"Very well. But you have your tickets, haven't you?" "I can return them and get my money back."

"Of course, if it would not be pleasant for you to attend the opera with me I shall be glad to release you from the obligation."

"Glad? Remember that we have decided to put formality aside and be frank with each other."

"Well, at least I should not find it pleasant to go if I knew that it bored you to accompany me."

"Go on, Helen, that isn't being half frank. Admit that you want me to take you so that I will not have a chance to take any other girl."

"Mr. Ferguson, you are—"

"Now, Helen, you are dropping back behind the barriers of conventionality. You were going to call me Tom, you know."

"But you are exasperating."

"I'll try not to be. Come on, now. Tell me candidly why you want to go to the opera. You intimated a moment ago that you were not interested in musical performances."

"I don't see why it is necessary to harp on that. There are other things we can talk about, aren't there?"

"Yes, plenty of them; but we ought to have that settled first. It makes you glad to snuggle up beside me in a theater, doesn't it?"

"You have no right to talk that way to me."

"But we are to be free from the restrictions of conventionality."

"Even if we are, we can still be respectful to each other."

"Certainly. It isn't disrespectful to say what I just said, is it?"

"It is hardly the thing a gentleman would be expected to say to a lady."

"But a man might say it to his wife, mightn't he?"

"A man might say lots of things to his wife that it wouldn't be proper for you to say to me."

"Oh, no—not if we are going to brush away the barriers you referred to a little while ago. We can't be frank if we are going to limit our frankness."

"But I didn't mean that, exactly."

"What did you mean, Helen?" "Why, that—that it seemed foolish for us to be so formal."

"In other words, you wanted me to speak right out and tell you I loved you, if I did, eh?" "You may consider yourself released from the engagement for next Thursday evening. I have no wish to accompany you to the opera."

"You had, in fact, got rather tired of waiting for me to say something that would relieve your anxiety concerning my purpose in calling on you, hadn't you, Helen."

"You will oblige me by calling me Miss Fancher, if you must mention my name."

"Don't be offended, Helen. I am only trying to be informal. Come, now, admit that you have been thinking of me a great deal lately."

"If you were capable of understanding how disagreeable you are making yourself you would, I am sure, take your hat and go."

"Remember this is leap year."

"What of it?"

"If you send me away to-night without giving me the right to hope that I may in the near future say to you whatever any gentleman may say to his wife I shall never return."

"Tom, do you really mean it?" "Of course I mean it, Helen."

"I'm so glad," she said as she put her arms around his neck, "that we decided to brush the barriers away."

Wonders of Evolution. Boy—Papa, was any of my ancestors ever a potato bug?

Eminent Man of Science—No, my son; the potato bug belongs to a collateral branch of nature's great family. You are probably a cousin to the potato bug, several billion times removed.—Chicago Tribune.

