

COMMITTEE ON PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS.

Mr. HOAR submitted the following resolution for consideration:

Resolved, That the Committee on Privileges and Elections be authorized to sit during the recess of the Senate, and to employ a clerk, to be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Sundry messages in writing were received from the President of the United States, by Mr. O. L. PRUDEN, one of his secretaries.

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 eight minutes spent in executive session the doors were reopened, and (at 1 o'clock and 40 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned.

NOMINATIONS.

Executive nominations received by the Senate the 11th day of March, 1889.

ENVOYS EXTRAORDINARY AND MINISTERS PLENIPOTENTIARY.

Thomas W. Palmer, of Michigan, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to Spain, *vice* Perry Belmont, resigned.

John F. Swift, of California, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Japan, *vice* Richard B. Hubbard, resigned.

MINISTER RESIDENT AND CONSUL-GENERAL.

John D. Washburn, of Massachusetts, to be minister resident and consul-general to Switzerland, *vice* Boyd Winchester, recalled.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF TREASURY.

George C. Tichenor, of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, *vice* Isaac H. Maynard, resigned.

TUESDAY, March 12, 1889.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. J. G. BUTLER, D. D.

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

LOUIS RIEL.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore* laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States; which was read, and, with the accompanying papers, ordered to lie on the table:

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith, in answer to the Senate resolution of the 11th ultimo, a report of the Secretary of State, with accompanying papers, in regard to the case of Louis Riel, otherwise known as Louis David Riel.

BENJAMIN HARRISON.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
Washington, March 11, 1889.

WITHDRAWAL OF PAPERS.

On motion of Mr. DAWES, it was

Ordered, That the papers in the cases of George Maxwell and F. C. Bulkley be withdrawn from the files of the Senate, there having been no adverse report in either case.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. EDMUNDS. I have been requested by the Senator from Connecticut who sits nearest me [Mr. PLATT] to say that the gentlemen representing both sides of the Chamber who have in charge the recommendation for the committees of the Senate will be ready to call the attention of the Senate to the subject in a very short time, and to ask the Senate to remain in session or to take a very short recess, when they will be ready to ask the attention of the Senate to the matter.

Mr. PLATT (at 12 o'clock and 12 minutes p. m.). I ask unanimous consent that so much of Rule XXIV as provides that the standing committees shall be appointed by ballot be suspended.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. Is there objection? The Chair hears none.

Mr. PLATT. I further ask unanimous consent that so much of Rule XXV as requires the appointment of a Committee on Expenditures of Public Money be suspended.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. Is there objection? The Chair hears none.

Mr. PLATT. I offer a resolution and ask for its present consideration.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. The resolution will be read.

The Chief Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the following constitute the standing committees of the Senate of the United States for the Fifty-first Congress—

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. Is there objection to the present consideration of the resolution? The Chair hears none, and it will be read at length.

The resolution was read at length, as follows:

Resolved, That the following constitute the standing committees of the Senate of the United States for the Fifty-first Congress:

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Agriculture and Forestry—Messrs. Paddock (chairman), Blair, Plumb, Higgins, McMillan, George, Gibson, Jones of Arkansas, Bate.

On Appropriations—Messrs. Allison (chairman), Dawes, Plumb, Hale, Farwell, Beck, Cockrell, Call, Gorman.

To Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate—Messrs. Jones of Nevada (chairman), Paddock, Vance.

On the Census—Messrs. Hale (chairman), Morrill, Wilson of Iowa, Stockbridge, Davis, Berry, Blackburn, Blodgett, Turpie.

On Civil Service and Retrenchment—Messrs. Chace (chairman), Dawes, Manderson, Stanford, Washburn, Walthall, Wilson of Maryland, Berry, Brown.

On Claims—Messrs. Spooner (chairman), Hoar, Mitchell, Higgins, Wolcott, Jones of Arkansas, Wilson of Maryland, Pasco, Faulkner.

On Coast Defenses—Messrs. Dolph (chairman), Cameron, Hawley, Hiscock, McPherson, Hampton, Reagan.

On Commerce—Messrs. Frye (chairman), Jones of Nevada, Dolph, Cameron, Sawyer, Cullom, Washburn, Ransom, Coke, Vest, Gorman, Kenna, Gibson.

On the District of Columbia—Messrs. Ingalls (chairman), Spooner, Farwell, McMillan, Higgins, Harris, Vance, Daniel, Faulkner.

On Education and Labor—Messrs. Blair (chairman), Wilson of Iowa, Stanford, Stewart, Washburn, George, Pugh, Payne, Barbour.

On Engrossed Bills—Messrs. Cockrell (chairman), Allison, Cullom.

On Enrolled Bills—Messrs. Farwell (chairman), Quay, Colquitt.

On Epidemic Diseases—Messrs. Harris (chairman), Hampton, Eustis, Berry, Hale, Stockbridge, Marston.

To Examine the Several Branches of the Civil Service—Messrs. Higgins (chairman), Aldrich, Allison, Hampton, Gray.

In lieu of a Committee on Expenditures of Public Money,

Committee on Organization, Conduct, and Expenditures of the Executive Departments (to consist of nine Senators)—Messrs. Hiscock (chairman), Plumb, Sherman, Frye, Spooner, Cockrell, Kenna, Gibson, Barbour.

On Finance—Messrs. Morrill (chairman), Sherman, Jones of Nevada, Allison, Aldrich, Hiscock, Voorhees, Beck, McPherson, Harris, Vance.

On Fisheries—Messrs. Stockbridge (chairman), Dawes, Stanford, Hampton, Blodgett.

On Foreign Relations—Messrs. Sherman (chairman), Edmunds, Frye, Evarts, Dolph, Morgan, Brown, Payne, Eustis.

On Improvement of the Mississippi River—Messrs. Washburn (chairman), Farwell, Hawley, Marston, Eustis, Walthall, Bate.

On Indian Affairs—Messrs. Dawes (chairman), Platt, Stockbridge, Manderson, Wolcott, Morgan, Jones of Arkansas, Hearst, Daniel.

On Interstate Commerce—Messrs. Cullom (chairman), Platt, Blair, Wilson of Iowa, Hiscock, Harris, Gorman, Reagan, Barbour.

On the Judiciary—Messrs. Edmunds (chairman), Ingalls, Hoar, Wilson of Iowa, Evarts, Pugh, Coke, Vest, George.

On the Library—Messrs. Evarts (chairman), Hoar, Voorhees.

On Manufactures—Messrs. McMillan (chairman), Quay, Platt, Colquitt, Blodgett.

On Military Affairs—Messrs. Hawley (chairman), Cameron, Manderson, Stewart, Davis, Cockrell, Hampton, Walthall, Bate.

On Mines and Mining—Messrs. Stewart (chairman), Jones of Nevada, Mitchell, Teller, Bate, Faulkner, Hearst.

On Naval Affairs—Messrs. Cameron (chairman), Hale, Stanford, Stockbridge, Marston, McPherson, Butler, Blackburn, Gray.

On Patents—Messrs. Teller (chairman), Chace, Platt, Hiscock, Gray, Kenna, Reagan.

On Pensions—Messrs. Davis (chairman), Blair, Sawyer, Paddock, Marston, Turpie, Blodgett, Faulkner, Barbour.

On Post-Offices and Post-Roads—Messrs. Sawyer (chairman), Chace, Mitchell, Quay, McMillan, Colquitt, Wilson of Maryland, Reagan, Blodgett.

On Printing—Messrs. Manderson (chairman), Hawley, Gorman.

On Private Land Claims—Messrs. Ransom (chairman), Colquitt, Pasco, Edmunds, Stewart, Ingalls, Wolcott.

On Privileges and Elections—Messrs. Hoar (chairman), Frye, Teller, Evarts, Spooner, Vance, Pugh, Gray, Turpie.

On Public Buildings and Grounds—Messrs. Stanford (chairman), Morrill, Spooner, Quay, Vest, Daniel, Pasco.

On Public Lands—Messrs. Plumb (chairman), Blair, Dolph, Teller, Paddock, Morgan, Walthall, Berry, Pasco.

On Railroads—Messrs. Mitchell (chairman), Sawyer, Hawley, Stockbridge, Wolcott, Marston, Brown, Kenna, Blackburn, Berry.

On the Revision of the Laws of the United States—Messrs. Wilson of Iowa (chairman), Stanford, Teller, Wilson of Maryland, Daniel.

On Revolutionary Claims—Messrs. Coke (chairman), Pugh, Hearst, Chace, Morrill.

On Rules—Messrs. Aldrich (chairman), Sherman, Ingalls, Harris, Blackburn.

On Territories—Messrs. Platt (chairman), Cullom, Manderson, Stewart, Davis, Butler, Payne, Jones of Arkansas, Blackburn.

On Transportation Routes to the Seaboard—Messrs. Quay (chairman), Mitchell, Cullom, Dawes, Aldrich, Gibson, Vest, George, Turpie.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. Is the Senate ready for the question on agreeing to the resolution?

The resolution was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That so much of Rule XXV of the standing rules of the Senate as prescribes the duties of the Committee on the Expenditures of Public Money be, and is hereby, repealed.

Mr. PLATT. I offer a resolution which I send to the desk, and I ask for its present consideration.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. If there be no objection to the present consideration of the resolution, it will be read.

The Chief Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the following constitute the select committees of the Senate of the United States for the Fifty-first Congress:

SELECT COMMITTEES.

To Investigate Condition of Potomac River Front of Washington—Messrs. McPherson (chairman), Ransom, Barbour, Manderson, Spooner, Edmunds.

To Inquire into all Claims of Citizens of the United States against the Government of Nicaragua—Messrs. Morgan (chairman), Wilson of Maryland, Hearst, Hoar, Cameron.

On Woman Suffrage—Messrs. Vance (chairman), Brown, Beck, Blair, Chace, Farwell, Wolcott.

On Additional Accommodations for the Library of Congress—Messrs. Voorhees (chairman), Butler, Morrill, Evarts, Marston.

On the Centennial of the Constitution and the Discovery of America—Messrs. Hiscock (chairman), Sherman, Hoar, Hawley, Voorhees, Eustis, Colquitt.

On the Five Civilized Tribes of Indians—Messrs. Butler (chairman), Morgan, Dawes, Cameron, Teller.

On the President's Message transmitting the Report of the Pacific Railway Commission—Messrs. Frye, Dawes, Hiscock, Davis, Morgan, Butler, Hearst.

On the Transportation and Sale of Meat Products—Messrs. Vest, Coke, Plumb, Manderson, Cullom.

On Relations with Canada—Messrs. Hoar, Allison, Hale, Dolph, Pugh, Butler, Voorhees.

On Irrigation and Reclamation of Arid Lands—Messrs. Stewart (chairman), Allison, Plumb, Hiscock, Gorman, Reagan, Jones of Arkansas.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. The question is on agreeing to the resolution offered by the Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. PAYNE. I should like to inquire whether a provision for the appointment of a select committee on relations with Canada has ever been adopted by the Senate as one of its regular committees?

Mr. PLATT. The committee which is styled the Committee on Relations with Canada is not among the standing committees of the Senate, but is preserved among the select committees of the Senate.

Mr. PAYNE. Has it ever been recognized as a regularly incorporated committee of the Senate?

Mr. PLATT. It was appointed at the last session of Congress but one.

Mr. PAYNE. Under a resolution?

Mr. PLATT. Under a resolution.

Mr. PAYNE. I move to strike out that portion of the pending resolution which relates to that committee.

Mr. PLATT. We have preserved in the resolution appointing the select committees of the Senate the committee which the Senator from Ohio refers to, the Committee on the Investigation of Meat Products, the business of which, I think, is not concluded, and also the committee appointed at the last session on the irrigation and reclamation of arid lands. Those three committees appointed at former sessions of Congress have not yet completed their work, and therefore the committee which reported this resolution put them in among the select committees of the Senate. They all stand upon the same ground.

Mr. PAYNE. I thought at the time that committee was appointed that it originated in a distrust of the then Executive of the country. I have no reason to-day to doubt that that was the moving cause of the introduction of the resolution. It appears to me that it is a direct usurpation of the powers of the Executive. It is the duty of the Executive to make inquiry if there is any interruption of our commerce with Canada. If there are complaints as to the operation of existing laws regulating that intercourse why should a committee of the Senate usurp that power, denying it to the Executive, and inquire as to the condition of our foreign relations which it is his duty to do?

It seems to me that the object of the resolution creating this committee was to embarrass the then existing administration of the Government. Differences arose as to the fisheries treaty, which failed to meet the concurrence of the Senate, and there was much expression of an unfriendly feeling and distrust of the Executive. The object was to take the matter away from the Executive by instructing a select committee.

We all know how these select committees are obtained. A Senator on his individual judgment asks the Senate when it is in a good humor to appoint a select committee. The mover of the resolution is of course the chairman of that committee, and I take it that the Presiding Officer usually, perhaps not in this case but usually, names as the associates of the mover of the resolution those whom he desires, permitting him to make up his committee for the purpose he has in view.

Now, why should we have a select committee to examine into our relations with Canada? If there is a committee of the Senate competent and able, from whom it is proper to expect this examination, it would be the Interstate Commerce Committee. We have a very able Committee on Interstate Commerce, of great experience and full information in regard to our relations with Canada, with which our lines of communication and transportation connect, who would naturally better than a select committee understand what was needed to perfect communication with Canada. Why, then, should we appoint a select committee, ignoring and superseding the Committee on Interstate Commerce, to accomplish this particular object? That committee are armed with full power under the legislation of Congress. They may appoint stenographers and clerks and incur any amount of expense that they see fit to do; and it seems to me this select committee is wholly unnecessary. I think that as a matter of economy and as a matter showing proper respect to the Executive as well as to the Interstate Commerce Committee, this resolution should be amended by striking out the Select Committee on Relations with Canada.

Mr. HOAR. Mr. President, this select committee was appointed during the first session of the last Congress with the expectation that there might be a vacation long enough to have the committee complete its investigation or make very large progress in it last summer. But that expectation was not realized. Congress sat until the 20th of October, and the duties of the political campaign occupied all the members of the committee on both sides of the Chamber until the November election. So there was, of course, no opportunity for the committee to discharge its duties. Some of the members of the committee, however, have given a great deal of study and have made a collection of statistics and documentary matter with reference to the subject to which it applies.

It was not intended in the least to encroach either on the domain of the Executive, or on the particular subjects which are subjects of executive inquiry and duty, or on the domain of the Committee on Foreign Relations, or on the domain of the Committee on Interstate Commerce. On the contrary, the members of those committees were consulted, and gentlemen on both sides of the Chamber were consulted quite extensively before the select committee was established.

This is a very large and important subject which will affect very seriously our local legislation on various matters, not merely on the railroads but on fiscal legislation and legislation in regard to a thousand subjects. Canada marches by the side of this country for 4,000 miles, and intercourse is growing up in almost every department of human activity, so that the intercourse between Canada and this country is greater than between many States of this Union, and is greater than between Canada and the country of which she is a dependency. I believe that the exports from this country to Canada are more than \$60,000,000, while the imports from Great Britain to Canada are now but \$40,000,000. It is a very interesting fact that in spite of the tariff which prevails (this being perhaps the most highly protected country in the world and Canada the next most highly protected country in the world), the trade between Canada and the United States is rapidly increasing, while the trade between Canada and Great Britain has actually fallen off in the last year or two.

It is important that we should have an understanding of the political constitution of Canada, of the condition in relation to her different races and different religious denominations which make up her population, and her curious system of government, which, while it is nominally a dependency upon Great Britain, where, I think the crown controls the appointment of all her provincial and confederate executive, and controls the appointment of her judiciary, and appoints all the members of the upper house of the Dominion, and the members of the upper house of two of her four confederated states, which have a double legislative body like ours, yet, at the same time, in practice, public opinion in Canada operates more promptly and instantly on the legislative body in changing legislative policies than it can possibly in this country under our Constitution.

In the performance of my legislative duties alone, keeping scrupulously clear even of the Senate's share in the treaty-making power, where we wish to be instructed as much as the Executive does, keeping scrupulously clear of this special railroad problem, I should be glad, and the interests of my constituency almost demand that I should be able to give two or three years' study to this one important subject alone.

It is useless for us to be blind to the fact, and no discretion requires us to be silent in regard to the fact that there is a large and growing body of men in Canada who desire annexation to this country. Political power is likely to turn and hinge upon that question in the near future in the Dominion of Canada, and upon the question whether the American people desire such an annexation or not. Nobody, of course, proposes to accomplish it without the free and intelligent and instructed will of both countries. It was impossible for the Committee on Foreign Relations, it was impossible for any other general committee of this body to enter upon, and still more impossible to exhaust the field of inquiry which this committee proposes to itself.

I stated to the Senate when the committee was formed that the committee would not undertake to enter upon even the great railroad relations. That was to be left to the Committee on Interstate Commerce; and the select committee in its report will accept the result of that committee in coming to their general conclusions about the relations of these countries.

So far from there being a thought of disrespect to the Executive, that never was contemplated. Leading supporters of the then Executive on the other side of the Chamber were consulted before the matter was proposed, and if it were proper or delicate to allude to particular personal relations I might say that some Senators on the other side of the Chamber understood to be closest in the confidence of the Executive were consulted about it. The fact that it is proposed by this side of the Chamber to continue the committee now shows certainly that there is no thought of any such want of confidence. I am sure that the researches of the committee will be of great value to the Senate, if they do their duty, and of great value to whoever may be charged in the future with executive duties in this country.

Mr. CULLOM. Mr. President, when the resolution referred to by the Senator from Ohio [Mr. PAYNE] as introduced by the Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. HOAR] was first submitted, it occurred to me that perhaps the scope of the authority of the select committee proposed would interfere with the jurisdiction of the Committee on Interstate Commerce as it had been given by the resolution of the Senate. Upon further investigation, however, and in conference with the honorable Senator from Massachusetts, it was distinctly understood that the work of the two committees should not conflict.

Mr. HOAR. It was so stated to the Senate.

Mr. CULLOM. And it was so stated by the honorable Senator from Massachusetts at the time the resolution was put upon its passage.

So far as the Committee on Interstate Commerce has been concerned, I think that no member has had the impression that the course of the committee of which the honorable Senator from Massachusetts is chairman was intended to interfere with the work of the Interstate Commerce Committee. The latter committee has been given authority to make investigation as to the relations between the United States and Canada, particularly pertaining to the transportation question both by railroad and by water, and incidentally to any matter that may affect it in any way; and that committee expect, during the coming re-

cess, if we are to have one, as I trust we are this year, to make such an investigation as they may be able in the interest of the people of the United States, with a view of determining as nearly as possible exactly what legislation ought to be adopted so as to protect American interests as against the interests of the people of Canada in connection with railroads or transportation. I hope our committee during the recess will be able to come to some conclusion or to make some report that will be of interest to the country and to the Senate touching necessary legislation upon that question.

I simply desire to say further that I do not think there can be too much investigation into the relations now existing and hereafter to exist between the United States and Canada. As I have said before, I very much desire that such investigations may be made, and that such progress may be made as that ultimately the two countries may become one; in other words, that the great country lying upon our northern border called Canada shall become finally a part of the United States. The honorable Senator from Vermont [Mr. EDMUNDS] says "we may as well look at both sides of it." We will look at both sides of it while we are making this investigation, and I trust that eventually such a result may be arrived at in a friendly way as that the two great countries may become one.

As the honorable Senator from Massachusetts has said the border of this country between the United States and Canada stretches from the Atlantic on the east to the Pacific on the west for some 4,000 miles. There are constant questions arising as to the transportation interests between the two countries, and it is perfectly evident that something has to be done by the United States, if it can be done, to protect American interests as between those interests and the interests of the people of Canada. So, whatever investigation may be made by the Committee on Interstate Commerce or by the select committee of which the Senator from Massachusetts is chairman, I trust that the result will be to give light upon the general subject so that the Congress of the United States may in the future be able to determine what it is best for us to do as a Congress in the interest of our own people.

Mr. STEWART. Mr. President, I hope the select committee will be continued and that this subject will be kept before the American people; I mean by that the people of the United States and the people of Canada; for I do not believe that with the long, crooked boundary and the complicated intercourse which must necessarily exist between the two governments they can continually live together in peace. The great security of our republican government is in the fact that we are under no necessity to maintain large standing armies, because we have no rival on this continent. If a great nation should spring up north of us, it would involve the necessity of a standing army on our part, and they would have a standing army, and an ultimate conflict would result, and that would mean danger to republican government. I believe that the North American continent, that is, the United States and all that is north of it, certainly must be one if our form of government is to be perpetuated.

I am glad to know that there is a committee considering the relations with Canada so as to keep the subject before the people, that they may think about it, and think about the great evil of having on this continent two rival governments ultimately having war. The question of the effect upon republican government, the effect upon the destiny of this country and Canada, should be kept in all friendliness before the people; and I am very glad we have such a committee, with so able a Senator at the head of it.

Mr. EDMUNDS. Mr. President, while I am not in the least degree in favor of the annexation of the British North American provinces to the United States at this present time (for I think we have more unassimilated elements in our country now than we can very well manage), I am perfectly willing and desirous that this committee shall pursue its explorations and ascertain all the facts relating to the intercourse between these two parts of this continent, and give us every information possible upon the subject. But I beg Senators in voting for this committee, as I shall do, not to consider that they are committed to annexation by the assent of the Parliament of Great Britain, and the assent of Canada, or the assent of anybody else, for that involves a problem which is of the most serious consequence, as I think, to the people of the United States in the way we are governed by a Senate representing, if those provinces should come in as half a dozen or more different States with twelve Senators, and a great increase in the other branch of Congress. It is a matter fraught with serious results to the welfare of our own people, and it is one of those steps that can not be taken and if found inconvenient thrown aside. The Union once made is indissoluble; it is a step that can not be retraced.

Therefore I hope everybody will vote under reserve in regard to this matter so far as the ultimate suggestions that some Senators have made upon this subject are concerned.

Mr. HALE. Mr. President, I do not understand that this select committee upon the relations existing politically and in a business way between the United States and Canada was organized or devised as an annexation committee. I should not deem it a happy omen for the committee if it was understood that in the work which it undertakes and carries out it is with the bent and purpose of forcing annexation. The chairman of the committee, in the very careful and complete sur-

vvey that he took of the work of the committee, did not, as I understand, indicate any such purpose; and it is only because that has been alluded to and a wish for annexation expressed, that I feel called upon as a member of the committee to say that I do not embark upon the work with any such purpose.

Whatever may be my expectation and hope as to peaceful processes that will work in the minds of the people of the two countries in the years to come that in the end may lead to a peaceable union which will be mutually beneficial to both, I do not think now that such a desirable result can in any way be promoted by premature agitation of that subject; and there is work enough of importance for the committee in gathering information and presenting it to the public and to Congress without going into that. The subjects that are to be embraced in the investigation are of the gravest importance to both peoples, and I expect that the investigation will be conducted in no regard in an encroaching spirit but in harmony with our neighbors over the border, and that they will be glad to contribute to the work of the committee.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. President, if any matter relating to our foreign relations had escaped the proper attention of the Executive, there is a committee of this body, the Committee on Foreign Relations, with which, fortunately or unfortunately, I am connected, a committee of the most experienced and able men, the best posted as to all our foreign interests that could be found in the body, and to them is intrusted the special duty of taking care of our relations with foreign countries.

I repeat, if there has been any omission or neglect on the part of the Executive, embracing the President and Secretary of State, that is no reason why the present Executive and the present Secretary of State should be trammelled in their efforts to look after these interests. The difficulty seems to have arisen with Massachusetts, which State is very much interested in the fisheries of course, but not as directly connected with Canada after all as the State of Maine. If Mr. Bayard, the late Secretary of State, by reason of his residence in Delaware, gave less attention to the interests of our fishermen in Canadian waters, there is no reason to suspect that the present Secretary of State, with his intimate knowledge of all those interests in all their bearings, will neglect them.

I repeat it is the proper duty and almost the exclusive duty, in the view of the Constitution, of the Executive to look after and guard and protect our foreign affairs and recommend to Congress, the legislative department, legislation in regard to them. But apart from the Executive we go with these questions into the Committee on Foreign Relations. Is not this proposition impugning the wisdom and the ability of that committee? Do they not understand all the questions relating to international traffic and intercourse better than any other committee of the Senate and better than any committee which can be selected by the distinguished author of the resolution? Why should they be overlooked, superseded, interfered with in the discharge of their proper duties by an individual Senator who moves a select committee to supervise all this work?

Now, let me read the resolution, offered by the Senator from Massachusetts, which created this committee:

Resolved, That a committee of seven Senators be appointed by the Chair whose duty it shall be to report upon the relations of commerce and business existing between the United States and the dependencies of Great Britain in North America, including the effect upon the commerce and carrying trade of the United States of the Canadian system of railways and canals now existing and in contemplation, and the prospect of the displacement of any existing industries of the United States by industries established there; also whether the obligations of existing treaties and of international law are and have been observed by the said dependencies toward the people of the United States, and the number, amount, and character of the existing claims against Great Britain by reason of the violation of such obligations toward the people of the United States in said dependencies.

That is a pretty broad power. All the British settlements and dependencies in North America are to be investigated by this select committee, the whole line of 3,000 or 4,000 miles of coterminous territory between the Dominion and the United States, and then as to the canals that are to be enlarged and the railroads that are to be built through, partly in Canada and partly in the United States, their relations and the effect of them upon our commerce and our trade are to be investigated.

But what was probably the especial motive of the creation of this committee was the claims under the fisheries laws and demands for damage, which are innumerable in number, varying in amount from one dollar to thousands of dollars. Those claims are to be investigated. So far it is usurping the duties of the Committee on Claims. All the duties of the Executive are usurped; all the powers of the Committee on Foreign Relations are usurped, and of the Committee on Interstate Commerce, which by reason of the connection of our improvements and lines of transportation with those of Canada are necessarily to be examined. Those duties are assumed also. The Committee on Interstate Commerce have of necessity been compelled to trace out the connection between our railroad relations and the railroads of the Dominion, between our water transportation and the railroad transportation of the Dominion, and also the water transportation of the Dominion. This has been their business. They have been required to study their connection and their dependence and their mutual relationship. Now, why should this committee, which have been laboring here for four

years at least, laboriously and diligently and have collected all this information, be superseded? Why must their powers be taken from them to be given to this select committee?

This committee have additional powers:

Said committee shall have power to send for persons and papers, to administer oaths, to employ a clerk, messenger, and stenographer, and to sit anywhere in the United States during the session and during the recess of Congress.

Any subcommittee by them appointed may exercise the same powers as the full committee.

All their bills are authorized to be paid out of the contingent fund of the Senate, and I believe a large item of expense has already come in. Any member of the Interstate Commerce Committee can go to Poor's Manual and get all the information which it contains about railroads, but Mr. Poor or somebody else who could do that has already, I believe, sent in a bill for \$2,500 for a little statement made out of his manual for this select committee, and that is paid out of the contingent fund of the Senate. It is wholly unnecessary.

Mr. President, allow me to suggest that there is hardly any necessity for the Executive or for the regular committees of the Senate if such powers as these are to be conferred upon a select committee. What is the use of an Executive to look after these interests, or for a Committee on Foreign Relations, if one member of the Senate, associating with himself such gentlemen as he desires, may have the whole control and absolute power to interfere with it and to incur any amount of expense? I take it, this is not merely a provision for a summer jaunting tour. It may have a great many branches. The committee may have their clerks and stenographers, and I suppose their quartermasters. If they go into the British North American provinces and inquire into all our relations and send for persons and papers they will have a pretty large summer's work on their hands to accomplish. But I notice here on our table along with it—and we may as well see to what extent of extravagance and usurpation of power this may lead—a resolution offered by the same Senator providing:

That the Committee on Privileges and Elections be authorized to sit during the recess of the Senate, and to employ a clerk, to be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate.

How many clerks must the Senator from Massachusetts have to maintain his dignity and rights fully? He has one as chairman of the Committee on Privileges and Elections, one as chairman of the Select Committee to Visit the North American Provinces of Great Britain, and one for a third purpose to employ an additional clerk, making three of them. It will take any amount of money. The whole contingent fund of the Senate is at their disposal, and the whole of the work to be performed is absolutely unnecessary. There is no occasion under heaven for expending one dollar in the appointment of this committee. With a Secretary of State who will not overlook the interests of his section of country, with an able and experienced Committee on Foreign Relations, and with a Committee on Interstate Commerce, one of the ablest in this body, I shall be thankful to any Senator who will point out the least necessity for retaining this select committee?

I ask for the yeas and nays on the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. MORRILL. Mr. President, I am quite willing that the resolution for the creation of the committee spoken of shall pass favorably. It may serve the purpose of those who think that our country is bounded on the north by the aurora borealis, on the west by the setting sun, on the south by the Antarctic Ocean, and on the east by the Atlantic, to afford them an opportunity to blow off their steam on this question of "manifest destiny;" but I really hope that they will do as little in relation to their supposed duties as possible. Certainly if they expect to consummate what some of them profess, the annexation of the Canadas to the United States—

Mr. HOAR. Will my friend from Vermont allow me?

Mr. MORRILL. I am talking of those who entertain such ideas. I know the Senator from Massachusetts does not.

Mr. HOAR. My friend will pardon me for making a suggestion. I thought his remarks would be misunderstood by some person to imply what he did not himself mean, and that was that the object in voting this committee related to that. I desire to repeat that while there are many persons in this country who have those opinions, and in the other country also, this committee and no member of it submitted any view whatever upon that subject, so far as I am aware; but the relations of our country with a neighbor that bounds us for 4,000 miles are getting so intimate that we ought to understand them as a Senate.

Mr. MORRILL. The Senator has made his statement, but my idea is that the whole agitation of this subject is preposterous. There never was a time when the Canadians were more intensely loyal than they are to-day to the British Government; and the idea that we can by starting any measure here break down the Tory government and enable the Liberals to supersede it in Canada is entirely, in my judgment, without any foundation. I have no question that this very agitation of the subject will make the Tory government to-day stronger in Canada than it would be without it; and therefore, while I regard the subject here introduced in any manner as injudicious and likely to work disastrously to the opinions of many of the gentlemen who I know entertain them, I have no objection to the resolution, because it is prob-

ably as harmless a way in which the subject can be ventilated as any that can be imagined.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. President, I am very sorry to disagree with my colleague [Mr. PAYNE] on the question of the appointment of the select committee which has been the subject of this discussion. I see no objection at all to the appointment of a committee to obtain information on any subject, especially one so important as our relations with Canada. There are innumerable questions not only affecting our diplomatic relations with Canada, but also affecting our commercial relations, constantly arising along the border, and likely to create disturbance and dispute.

When the Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. HOAR] offered the resolution for the creation of the select committee, I looked upon it as one means of gathering information on this subject, and if the committee will really give attention to the matter they will do a great deal of good. The only complaint that I know of which has been made against the committee was that they seemed to neglect their duty, and that we have had no report from them, but the explanation has been given by the Senator from Massachusetts that during the last summer they had no opportunity to act. Therefore I see no objection to continuing the committee.

I wish also to state, partly in reply to a remark made by the Senator from Vermont [Mr. EDMUNDS], who took care to disclaim any idea of annexing Canada, that the word "annex" is not very pleasant to either the United States or Canada; but the union of Canada and the United States, in my judgment, is just as sure to come, whatever committees you may have and whoever may be Senators here, as any future event can happen, unless a state of hostile feeling is aroused between the peoples of the two countries sufficient to prevent the natural mingling of these two populations under one government.

I believe, and I state it with confidence, that whenever the people of the two countries really desire union and have fair time to consider all the arguments in favor of it they will find a mode of bringing about a union of the two countries. I have no fear as to that, nor do I care to hasten that result. It will be a popular movement and not a movement of governments. It will become a strong and irresistible popular demand founded upon mutual interests and association.

I wish now to say that, so far as I know, from the eastern border of Ohio to the Pacific Ocean there is practically no difference of opinion on either side of the line as to the sentiment among the people on that matter. I have no doubt that the representatives of every State from Ohio west to the new State of Washington will make the same declaration; and if you take the Canadian population on the opposite side of that great extent of country you will find there an earnest and strong desire that the boundary line should be abolished or extended to the Arctic Ocean. There will be very little difference of opinion about it. The only difference of opinion that would arise would be between the people of New England, and then only partially so, and the people of Quebec and the maritime provinces. That is my opinion.

It is not necessary to discuss the question further, because I certainly would not propose any measure that would either threaten, or coax, or beg, or ask, even, the people of Canada to join their fortunes with ours. The time will come when, by the growth of popular sentiment on both sides of the line, it will be felt that it is necessary for the safety of each and all, to prevent internal wars, and, if you please, continued discord, that it will be for the benefit of the people of these countries, speaking the same language, with like institutions—as much alike as those of our several States—to gradually melt into allegiance to one government, under the same common flag, and, I trust, with the hearty goodwill of the mother country of both.

I make these remarks not for the purpose of urging forward the union of these countries, but rather for the purpose of expressing an opinion, of which I have no doubt, as to the people on the two sides of this line west, at least, of Lake Ontario, and I think north of Lake Ontario also.

Mr. BLAIR. Mr. President, I had not designed to say anything in this debate, and should not have risen now but for the sectional allusion made with reference to the opinion of the people of the United States touching this question, not of annexation, but of political union between Canada and the United States.

I believe that no portion of the American continent, whether within or without our own country, is more interested in political union between these two great countries than New England, and I believe, too, that that will be found to be the common sentiment of the people of the Northeast of our own country.

The Senator from Ohio speaks with reference to the unanimity of sentiment on both sides of the line from Lake Ontario westward. I do not believe any different sentiment prevails easterly.

Mr. SHERMAN. My friend from New Hampshire will allow me. My remark was not so much with regard to the sentiment of New England as to the opinion expressed by the Senator from Vermont [Mr. EDMUNDS].

Mr. BLAIR. I understood the Senator so, and my own mind labored somewhat under the impression that the utterances of the Senator from Vermont upon this floor, coming from that portion of the country where I reside, did not represent the feelings of the common people, of the

business men, of the masses of those who are from New England, precisely as I understood them to be, and therefore I feel that it is incumbent upon one who lives in that portion of the country to say on this floor in this connection that I believe that New England is for political union with Canada, whatever may be the sentiment in any portion of the United States. I believe our interests are for it more so than those of any other portion of the country. If this union were effected suddenly, which is not to be expected, if it were effected at once, there might come some depreciation in values along the Canadian border of New England. That is very true. But the ultimate result, and the result very soon reached I believe, would be one of greatly increased prosperity and of increased values on both sides of the line.

The difficulties that we have in New England are not precisely those which attend industry in other portions of the Union. We are an old country compared with some other portions of the Union; our industries are established and can go alone. We are not in need of the application of the protective theory of industry so much as is the case with the South and with the West to-day. Our manufactures are established; our system of labor is well defined, well understood; our capital has been long located and fixed, and it finds its channels of operation within its own territory somewhat circumscribed and it seeks expansion elsewhere, and not wholly within the United States either. It is invested or will very readily invest on the north side of the line when that line is effaced and becomes merely, as I hope it soon may be, a matter of history.

We have our maritime difficulties; we have the difficulty attending our location with reference to the future defense of the country, and that little sliver of territory lying along the Atlantic coast on the northeast with the St. Lawrence, the great inlet of the continent by water, back of us is not a very healthy and happy position, geographically or politically, to occupy with reference to the great future when Canada will be a people of one hundred or two hundred millions of inhabitants and the real power will be behind New England and in a foreign country unless political union should be the result of prior events.

With reference to the French-Canadian population, I can only say that the peoples on both sides of the line are essentially one people, one in interest, and yet they are separated by diverse laws, diverse institutions, diverse bases of value, and of industries, leading to interminable and inextricable confusion and difficulty, as I think in the near future. There are no difficulties of race such as have been alluded to as existing between the Anglo-Saxon and the French populations which would be in the way of an early harmonization between the two peoples. The best, the most vigorous of the French-Canadian population, is already within the United States, very largely it is in New England, and the differences in religion are not differences in race or in human nature. They will soon be, inevitably, as I believe, by the processes which are now in operation, harmonized, and that circumstance is no objection to political union between these two countries in my own mind.

We need in New England the raw material which is outside of us, and which is more accessible from the British provinces than it is from Pennsylvania or from Ohio or from West Virginia. We are in immediate contact with vast stores of the metals and of other raw materials, as well as fish in the sea, that should come to New England for her single prosperity with none of the incumbrances of a tariff or of prolonged transportation, which is equivalent to the same thing.

So, Mr. President, I do not like this occasion to pass without something being said of an affirmative character from one who lives in New England in favor of the sentiments which have been so eloquently and so nobly uttered on this floor by the honorable Senator from Ohio [Mr. SHERMAN].

Mr. BUTLER. Mr. President, I did not suppose when this committee was provided for that there was any idea of considering the question of the annexation of Canada or any portion of it to the United States. I did not suppose that it contemplated even the political union of the two countries, and I am a little apprehensive, unless that idea is pretty stoutly denied in this Senate Chamber, that the members of the committee may be arrested as filibusters when they go across the line and incarcerated; and not having any ambition in that direction, I should like it to be thoroughly understood that we are to have nothing to do with the question of annexation or even, as I stated, of political union.

I supposed after reading the resolution that the inquiry was more of a commercial and business character than anything else, and in that aspect of the question I can see no earthly objection to result from the inquiry which is contemplated, but a great deal of good may come from it. Committees are frequently employed by legislative bodies, certainly they have been employed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States, for the purpose of procuring information in aid of these bodies when they come to legislate upon any given subject. I supposed that was entirely and exclusively the object of this committee. So much, however, has been said about annexation and political union that I should feel a little apprehensive that the objects of the committee might be paralyzed unless they were very clearly and distinctly stated.

Mr. HOAR. If the Senator from South Carolina will pardon me, I will state that the question of annexation never entered into my mind in connection with the forming of this committee.

Mr. BUTLER. So I supposed.

Mr. HOAR. And I spent a good deal of time, all the spare time I could get, in preparing and blocking out a scheme of inquiry for the committee, the various subjects to be dealt with, and a number of them are of very great importance. If I had a copy of it with me I should be glad to show it to the honorable Senator now. It is possible that in some fifty or sixty heads of investigation, the desirability of annexation may be included amongst them. I will not say it is not there, but it bears no sort of relation or proportion of any importance to the inquiries contemplated.

Mr. BUTLER. So I supposed, and therefore it occurred to me that the discussion was entirely premature in connection with this inquiry. It is not safe to undertake to cross a bridge until you get to it. I have my own views on the subject of political union or annexation, or whatever you choose to term it, of Canada and this country; but the agitation of that subject in this body is not going to facilitate what a good many people desire. I deem it entirely unnecessary that I should express my opinion on that subject in this connection. I will repeat, however, that I understand the object of the committee is purely of a commercial and business character, to make inquiries which will aid the Senate in future legislation. I should, therefore, feel regret as a member of that committee to cross that border with even a suspicion attached to us that we were going there for any such purpose as some have appeared to intimate.

Mr. PLATT. Mr. President, it hardly seems necessary that I should say that in reporting a continuance of this committee to the Senate there was not the slightest thought in the mind of any of the persons from whom this report comes that the proposed committee had anything whatever to do with the question, now or in the future, of a possible union between this country and Canada of a political character, and how it has happened that in this discussion that question has been brought to the front I can scarcely see. The committee which reported this resolution did not suppose that when the Select Committee on Relations with Canada was originally constituted it looked toward any solution or discussion of the question of political union with Canada at any time any more than when the Senate appointed or created a South American Commission, which went all through the South American states and gathered statistics as to trade and our relations with those countries, anybody supposed at that time that it looked to any union with the South American states of a political character. I did not suppose that any one thought the constitution of this committee had any such object in view as to Canada.

Mr. PAYNE. I should like to inquire of the Senator from Connecticut whether he is aware that a subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Relations, consisting of the Senator from Vermont [Mr. EDMUNDS], the Senator from Maine [Mr. FRYE], and the Senator from Delaware [Mr. SAULSBURY], have visited the Canadian fishing grounds and made a thorough and full investigation of our relations with Canada?

Mr. PLATT. We knew that fact. We knew that that committee had made a report and had printed the testimony which was taken about it, and that that was before the Senate; but we did not suppose that this committee had reference simply to the fishery interest, but to all the commercial relations between Canada and the United States, and they are very much more extensive than the mere fishery interests. We knew, too, that this committee was constituted by the Senate after the report of the subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Relations was made to the Senate, and we therefore supposed that the Senate acted understandingly at the time it originally constituted this committee, and I should have feared if we had left it off as if we were running somewhat counter to the will of the Senate in constituting this committee.

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. President, after hearing the observations of the Senator from Ohio [Mr. PAYNE] I supposed it would not be expedient to vote in favor of raising this select committee on Canadian relations; but since the distinct avowal made by the chairman of the committee and by members of the committee that it is no part of the business of the committee to consider our political relations with Canada, but that they mean to confine themselves exclusively to our commercial and business relations, I am disposed to favor the report and support the resolution creating the committee.

But, Mr. President, we have relations of a very extensive character with Mexico, and inasmuch as this committee has no political mission whatever, I suggest to the chairman of the committee that our relations with Mexico be included, so that we may get full information with respect to our trade and business with that republic. We know that it extends along our frontier line for several thousand miles, like Canada. We know that there are eight or nine millions of people inhabiting that country; that they have institutions similar to our own; that they have vast unexplored resources, and I have no doubt, if all the facts bearing upon the relations between this country and Mexico were placed before the capitalists of the United States, they would be induced to make large investments there and to multiply our business relations with the people of this neighboring republic.

I therefore suggest, if the Senator from Massachusetts will accept it, that after the word "Canada" he insert "and Mexico." If this

were a temporary committee I would not insist upon the amendment; but as I understand it this is to be a select committee whose mission will not terminate between now and the next session of Congress, but as the committee will be continued during the Fifty-first Congress under the rules of the Senate, there will therefore be ample time for the committee to look, not only into the relations between the people of this country and Canada, but into the relations that exist between the people of the United States and the people of Mexico.

Mr. HOAR. I will cheerfully vote now or hereafter for a special committee to deal with the important and interesting subject to which the Senator from Louisiana has just alluded, but I do not think it would be wise at this time to put that burden upon this committee, for two reasons. In the first place, I think all the time which the committee can possibly devote to this subject will be required for the question which is already covered by the resolution heretofore adopted; and while I suppose every Senator is presumed to be and is interested in every subject before the Senate equally with every other Senator, and certainly competent to deal with it, yet there may be Senators whose special study or whose special knowledge and special place of habitation would render them peculiarly qualified to investigate our relations with Mexico, so that they could do it more rapidly and satisfactorily than others who are found on this committee.

At any rate, when this committee has completed and reported its work next winter, if the Senate should then choose to put this additional duty upon them, it would be within its power; but I should for myself prefer, and I would suggest to the honorable Senator from Louisiana, if the subject of our relations with Mexico ought to be, as he thinks, inquired into, a special committee should be raised on that subject.

Mr. GIBSON. I will not press the amendment on the Senate now, but I give notice that I shall offer a resolution constituting a select committee on the subject of our commercial relations with Mexico, having nothing to do with our political relations.

Mr. FRYE. Mr. President, if any one supposes that annexation with Canada is to be had by any movement on the part of the United States, he is most profoundly mistaken. Every step which is taken in the United States towards annexation is only an injury to the friends of annexation in Canada and only retards annexation, if it is desirable at all to us to have it; and I do not believe that any committee of the United States Senate to-day would dream of taking any step in that direction.

Now, a word as to this committee. I had occasion and it became necessary for me to investigate very important questions touching the fishery interests very early in this last Congress. I regret to say that in the attempts I made on our side of the line I met with little or no success. I regret to say that on this great question of the fishery interests the United States never has spent \$1,000 in collecting statistics of that industry, while Canada has spent \$50,000 in one single year on that alone. One of our most serious troubles when we met down at Halifax under the Geneva award, for the determination of our interests and their interests and the value of theirs, was that Canada came to that hearing prepared and equipped with every single statistic that bore upon the question. Their statistics were absolutely perfect; and when our commissioners went there they had no statistics at all that any human being could rely upon. The United States never appropriated a dollar to provide for these statistics until this very last year, and, if I remember aright, then three or four or five thousand dollars was appropriated.

In every branch of industry in Canada there is that same care exercised as to the preparation of statistics. I had to send to Canada to get information that I desired, and it occurred to me that it was exceedingly important, as not only would fishery questions arise, but various other questions between us and Canada would arise constantly and be coming to the front—it was exceedingly important that we should have somewhere in the United States a book to which we could appeal. Therefore, very early in the Congress, I put in a resolution in the United States Senate directing the Committee on Foreign Relations to prepare a book of statistics touching the business and other relations between Canada and the United States, giving in detail the subjects to which the attention of the Committee on Foreign Relations should be called. In a hesitating and halting manner we proceeded because we had enough to do outside of that business; but what time we did engage in it we received statistics which would fill a printed book of the ordinary size of Congressional books of, say, 500 pages. It never was printed, and when the special committee was created to investigate the same subject it was entirely satisfactory to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and indeed I think that committee believed that a special committee was necessary for the purpose, and we immediately referred all the documents that we had received to that special committee, and that committee to-day has them in hand.

I do not know of anything that a committee of Congress could do that would be of more value to us in the next ten years than to present us in clear form and correctly all of the statistics that that resolution which I offered and which the Senate adopted unanimously called for. The value of it in discussions hereafter can not be overstated or overrated. The only thing I fear is that this committee will not de-

vote the time which is absolutely necessary to obtaining the information which is so much to be desired on our part.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. The Senator from Ohio [Mr. PAYNE] moves to amend the resolution by striking out what will be read.

The Secretary read as follows:

On Relations with Canada—Messrs. Hoar (chairman), Allison, Hale, Dolph, Pugh, Butler, and Voorhees.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. On the question of agreeing to the amendment the Senator from Ohio asks that the yeas and nays may be entered on the Journal.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. CALL. I should like to have the question stated again, Mr. President. I do not understand it.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. The Senator from Ohio moves to amend the resolution constituting select committees by striking out what has been read by the Secretary.

Mr. CALL. I understand that the purport of this motion is to do away with this committee.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. That is the intent of the mover of the amendment.

Mr. CALL. Mr. President, the question of creating special committees of the Senate for special objects is one that deserves some consideration. What the Committee on Foreign Relations are to do when the practice is established of separating the consideration of the industrial relations or the commercial relations of foreign countries with us from their political relations to us is somewhat difficult to understand. The two are necessarily united. If the Senator from Louisiana has his idea carried into effect and a special committee is created to consider the commercial relations with Mexico, and then we have another committee created, which I give notice of, to consider the commercial relations of the United States with Cuba and the West India Islands, and so we go on around the world, what is to be left for the venerable Committee on Foreign Relations? What shall be its function?

I rather favor the idea of creating these committees, because it somewhat equalizes the discharge of their duties and the connection of all the Senators of this body with the important subjects of legislation; but I do not see what the Committee on Foreign Relations will have to do when you confine them to the consideration of the political relations between this country and foreign countries. What are those political relations? Who will define them? They consist most largely of commercial relations. Without commercial relations, without business connection of any kind between this country and foreign countries, there is no need for political relations, and I do not see what this committee are to do that can not be done by the Senate itself or by its Committee on Foreign Relations.

The only reason why this can be favored is that the practice tends to enlarge the subjects of public importance, of public business, with which all the Senators may be connected in committees. Under our present system, with a great many nominal committees, there is a large number of Senators here who will pass their whole term without any connection with the important public business of this body except the right to vote for or against them and the right to speak upon them. The proposition has some merit because it equalizes somewhat the privileges of Senators. It enlarges the number of those who will have the privilege of visiting different parts of the country at the public expense, and it connects them somewhat with the public business of the country and does not confine it, as it is now, to a small number of persons. For these reasons I think there is some merit in the proposed select committee. I shall vote for it, not because it will promote the annexation of Canada, as this country has no right to advance a proposition of that kind until it shall come from the people of Canada or from Great Britain.

We have no right to interfere with the political relations of a foreign country to its own people unless there is some movement made by their people or we propose to do it by force. We have no right to appoint or otherwise to invite or attempt to create disaffection amongst the people of a foreign country, and if we had the right we would not advance the object of any public movement of this character. But I think if the Senate desire that there shall be special committees created, this is as important a subject as any other, and that the division of functions now assigned to the Committee on Foreign Relations in extending the number of Senators who will be connected more directly with the important functions now assigned to that committee has some merit in it, and if the practice of visiting the different parts of the country at the public expense is to be established, surely there should be some equality of right and privilege which should include all the Senators, and prevent this privilege from being a matter of favoritism.

The assignment of the committees of the Senate, in my opinion, sadly needs alteration. As at present constituted, so far from inviting or allowing any Senator to take part in the public business of importance and regarding him as capable and worthy of doing so, many of them are effectually excluded during their whole terms from any active or immediate connection with it.

I have often protested against this, and I shall continue to do so as long as I shall be here, as a practice hurtful to the public interest and to the dignity of this body.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. President, in view of suggestions that have been offered to me as to the adjustment of committees between the two sides of the Chamber, I withdraw the amendment.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. If there be no objection, the ordering of the yeas and nays is withdrawn, and the Senator from Ohio withdraws the amendment. The question recurs on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

RELATIONS WITH MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA.

Mr. GIBSON submitted the following resolution for consideration:

Resolved, That a select committee of seven Senators be appointed by the Chair on relations with Mexico and Central America.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION ROUTES.

Mr. QUAY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee to Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate:

Resolved, That the Committee on Transportation Routes to the Seaboard be, and hereby is, authorized to employ a clerk during the coming recess of the Senate, said clerk to be paid out of the contingent fund of the Senate the regular compensation allowed per diem committee clerks.

RELATIONS WITH WEST INDIES.

Mr. CALL submitted the following resolution for consideration:

Resolved, That a special committee of seven Senators shall be created to investigate and report on the relations of the United States with the Island of Cuba and the other West Indies.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Messages in writing were received from the President of the United States, by Mr. O. L. PRUDEN, one of his secretaries.

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 fourteen minutes spent in executive session the doors were reopened, and (at 1 o'clock and 55 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, Wednesday, March 13, 1889, at 12 o'clock meridian.

NOMINATIONS.

Executive nominations received by the Senate the 12th day of March, 1889.

TERRITORIAL OFFICERS.

Arthur C. Mellette, of Dakota, to be governor of Dakota, *vice* Louis K. Church, resigned.

Luther B. Richardson, of Dakota, to be secretary of Dakota, *vice* Michael L. McCormack, to be removed.

Cornelius H. Hanford, of Washington Territory, to be chief-justice of the supreme court of the Territory of Washington, *vice* Thomas Burke, resigned.

George W. Irvin, of Montana Territory, to be marshal of the United States for the Territory of Montana, *vice* Robert S. Kelley, resigned.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR INDIANA.

Smiley W. Chambers, of Indiana, to be attorney of the United States for the district of Indiana, *vice* E. B. Sellers, resigned.

ENVOY EXTRAORDINARY AND MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY.

Albert G. Porter, of Indiana, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to Italy, *vice* John B. Stallo, resigned.

MINISTER RESIDENT AND CONSUL-GENERAL.

John A. Enander, of Illinois, to be minister resident and consul-general of the United States to Denmark, *vice* Rasmus Anderson, resigned.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF TREASURY.

George S. Batcheller, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, to succeed Hugh S. Thompson, resigned.

ASSISTANT SURGEONS MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE.

James C. Perry, of North Carolina, to be an assistant surgeon in the Marine-Hospital Service of the United States, *vice* F. M. Urquhart, deceased.

Alexander C. Smith, of New York, to be an assistant surgeon in the Marine-Hospital Service of the United States, to fill an original vacancy.

POSTMASTERS.

Richard Root, to be postmaster at Keokuk, Keokuk County, Iowa, *vice* Patrick Gibbons, deceased.

Arthur C. Perry, to be postmaster at Presque Isle, Aroostook County, Maine, the office having become Presidential.

Charles A. Rolfe, to be postmaster at Princeton, Washington County, Maine, the office having become Presidential.

Lyman M. Ward, to be postmaster at Benton Harbor, Berrien County, Michigan, *vice* Hattie B. Rixford, commission expired.

Lawson R. Muzzy, to be postmaster at Pulaski, Orange County, New York, *vice* John T. McClearty, removed.

George W. Dunn, to be postmaster at Binghamton, Broome County, New York, *vice* Edward H. Freeman, removed.

Ira Dorrance, to be postmaster at Middletown, Orange County, New York, *vice* Ira Dorrance, removed.

Lensie L. Sayles, to be postmaster at Malone, Franklin County, New York, *vice* Charles A. Burke, resigned, to take effect April 1, 1889.

William L. Beers, to be postmaster at Rhineland, Oneida County, Wisconsin, the office having become Presidential.

CONFIRMATIONS.

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate March 12, 1889.

ENVOYS EXTRAORDINARY AND MINISTERS PLENIPOTENTIARY.

Thomas W. Palmer, of Michigan, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to Spain.

John F. Swift, of California, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to Japan.

MINISTER RESIDENT AND CONSUL-GENERAL.

John D. Washburn, of Massachusetts, to be minister resident and consul-general of the United States to Switzerland.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF TREASURY.

George C. Tichenor, of Illinois, to be assistant secretary of the Treasury.

WEDNESDAY, March 13, 1889.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. J. G. BUTLER, D. D.

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

COMMITTEE ON COAST DEFENSES.

Mr. DOLPH submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee to Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate:

Resolved, That the Committee on Coast Defenses be authorized to sit and employ a clerk during the coming recess of the Senate, said clerk to be paid out of the contingent fund of the Senate the regular compensation allowed per diem committee clerks.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS.

Mr. HOAR. I ask for the present consideration of the resolution authorizing the Committee on Privileges and Elections to employ a clerk, and that it be referred to the Committee on Contingent Expenses.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. The Chair lays before the Senate the resolution offered by the Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. Hoar], coming over from a previous day, which will be read.

The Chief Clerk read the resolution submitted by Mr. HOAR March 11, 1889, as follows:

Resolved, That the Committee on Privileges and Elections be authorized to sit during the recess of the Senate, and to employ a clerk, to be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. The resolution will be referred, under the rule, to the Committee to Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate.

Mr. GORMAN. When the resolution was introduced a few days since I objected to its consideration. At that time I misapprehended the purport of the resolution. I understand now that it means simply that the committee shall have the benefit of its clerk during the recess. I desire to say that I have no earthly objection to the resolution or the one which has just preceded it, for the reason that I believe it is unanimously agreed that the business of the Senate and of Congress would be facilitated if all the important standing committees had clerks during the recess of Congress, and I hope that at the next session some such provision will be made.

Mr. HOAR. If there be no objection, then, as I understand from conversing with several Senators on the other side as well as on this that there probably is no objection in the mind of any Senator, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution may be adopted without a reference.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. If there be no objection to the present consideration of the resolution, the question is on agreeing to the same.

The resolution was agreed to.

COMMITTEE SERVICE.

Mr. WOLCOTT. I desire to be excused from serving upon the Committee on Railroads.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. The Senator from Colorado [Mr. WOLCOTT] asks to be excused from further service upon the Committee on Railroads. If there be no objection, it will be so ordered. How shall the vacancy be filled?

Mr. CULLOM and others. By the Chair.

No objection being made, the President *pro tempore* was authorized to fill the vacancy.

SILVER COINAGE.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. There are several resolutions on the table offered on previous days. The Chair lays before the Senate the