CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE SENATE.

SENATE.

THURSDAY, March 4, 1897.

Hon. GARRET A. HOBART, Vice-President of the United States, having taken the oath of office at the close of the last regular session of the Fifty-fourth Congress, took the chair.

PRAYER.

Rev. W. H. MILBURN, D. D., Chaplain to the Senate, offered the following prayer:

O Thou, the King of kings and Lord of lords, we are come to implore the aid of Thy power upon this solemn service, which engenders the profoundest interest of our whole nation and enlist the sympathies of all kindred lives and tongues—the induction of Thine honored servants according to the sovereign will and free choice of the United States of America into the highest offices of the land, lifting them from the plane of private citizens to the level of the mightiest rulers of the world, and clothing them with vast powers and awful responsibilities. As they bow before the majesty of Thy presence and throne, while clutching their faith to Thee and to the people by kissoing the holy volume of Thy word, gird their loins and strengthen their hearts for the manifold and great tasks and labors that lie before them. Guard their persons from disease, violence, and every form of danger. Endue them with health and soundness of body and mind, enrich them with equity, nimity, patience, long suffering, fortitude, and courage, and with a wise and understanding heart. And as under Thy guidance they seek the well-being of the whole people, rally to their support the patriotism devotion of the nation.

Give peace in our time, O Lord, and a friendly understanding with all the republics, kingdoms, and empires of the world. Establish among us, according to the reign of kindness and the spirit of plain living, high thinking, noble doing, and the spirit of brotherly love. Thus crown the Administration of Thy servants with the success and honor that come from God. Likewise we pray that Thy blessing may rest upon Thy servants who this day enter into the fellowship of the Senate. Inspire them and their brethren of longer service, so that the country may enter upon a new and an unexampled era of prosperity and well-being. Nor would we forget Thy servants who to-day lay aside the cares and toils and responsibilities of their offices as President and Vice-President and as members of the Senate and of the House of Representatives. God of our fathers, guide, preserve, and bless them. Cause Thy face to shine upon them, and give them length of days, Thy comfort and peace.

And so lifting our hearts to Thee as children to a father, we pray in behalf of the great assembly within these walls, of our brethren throughout the whole land, and through all lands, that the peace of God which passeth all understanding may keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord. And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost be amongst us and remain with us always. Amen.

ADDRESS OF VICE-PRESIDENT HOBART.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. Senators, to have been elected to preside over the Senate of the United States is a distinction which any citizen would prize, and the manifestation of confidence which it implies is an honor which I sincerely appreciate.

My gratitude and loyalty to the people of the country, to whom I owe this honor, and my duty to you, as well, demand such an observant, equitable, and conscientious construction and enforcement of your rules as shall promote the well-being and prosperity of the people, and at the same time conserve the time-honored precedents and established traditions which have contributed to make this tribunal the most distinguished of the legislative bodies of the world.

In entering upon the duties of the office to which I have been chosen, I feel a peculiar delicacy, for I am aware that your body, for whom, for a time, I will be associated, has had but a small voice in the selection of its presiding officer, and that I am called to conduct your deliberations, while not perhaps your choice in point of either merit or fitness.

It will be my constant effort to aid you, so far as I may, in all reasonable expedition of the business of the Senate, and I may be permitted to express the belief that such expedition is the hope of the country. All the interests of good government and the advancement toward a higher and better condition of things call for prompt and positive legislation at your hands. To obstruct the regular course of wise and prudent legislative action after the fullest and freest discussion is neither consistent with true Senatorial courtesy, conducive to the welfare of the people, nor in compliance with their just expectations.

While assisting in the settlement of the grave questions which devolve upon the Senate of the United States it will be my endeavor to so guide its deliberations that its wisdom may be fruitful in works, at the same time exercising such fairness and impartiality within the rules of the Senate as shall deserve at least the good opinion for the sincerity of my effort.

Unfamiliar with your rules and manner of procedure, I can only promise that I will bring all the ability I possess to the faithful discharge of every duty as it may devolve upon me, relying always upon your suggestions, your advice, and your cooperation, and I should feel unequal to the task did I not trustfully anticipate that indulgent aid and consideration which you have at all times given to my predecessors, and without which I could not hope to acquit myself to your satisfaction or with any degree of personal credit.

It shall be my highest aim to justify the confidence the people have reposed in me by discharging my duties in such a manner as to lighten your labors, secure your appreciation of my honest effort to administer your rules with an eye single to the public good, and promote the pleasant and efficient transaction of the public business.

I trust that our official and personal relations may be alike pleasing, that the friendships we may form here may be genuine and lasting, and that the work of the Senate may redound to the peace and honor of the country and the prosperity and happiness of all the people.

The Secretary will read the proclamation of the President convening the Senate in extraordinary session.

PROCLAMATION.

The Secretary (Mr. W. R. Cox) read the proclamation, as follows:

Whereas public interests require that the Senate be convened at 12 o'clock on the 4th day of March next, to receive such communications as may be made by the Executive:

Now, therefore, I, Grover Cleveland, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim and declare that an extraordinary occasion...
requires the Senate of the United States to convene at the Capitol and at the time appointed by the President of the United States and of the members of that body and to take notice. Given under my hand and the seal of the United States, at Washington, the day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-first.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

By the President:
RICHARD OLNEY,
Secretary of State.

SWARING IN OF SENATORS.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The names of the newly-elected Senators whose credentials are on file will now be called by the Secretary. They will come forward and receive the oath of office, four senators being suggested by each Senator, that there will be no objection that Senator Morrill, of Vermont, shall take his place at the desk and be sworn in, his name being first called.

The Secretary called the names of—
William E. Boies, of the State of Vermont.

Mr. Morrill was escorted to the Vice-President's desk by Mr. PROCTOR, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to him. The following nominees will now be called by the Secretary.

The Secretary called the names of—
Edmund W. Pettus, of the State of Alabama.
James K. Jones, of the State of Kansas.

As their names were called, the Senators-elect were escorted to the desk by Mr. TELLER, Mr. BERRY, Mr. WHITE, and Mr. PETTUS, respectively, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to them.

The Secretary called the names of—
Orville H. Platt, of the State of Connecticut.
Alexander S. Clay, of the State of Georgia.
Henry Heitfeld, of the State of Idaho.

As their names were called, the Senators-elect were escorted to the Vice-President's desk by Mr. HALEY, Mr. BACON, Mr. SHOULDS, and Mr. CUMBERLAND, respectively, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to them.

The Secretary called the names of—
William B. Allison, of the State of Kansas.
Samuel D. McEmery, of the State of Louisiana.

As their names were called, the Senators-elect, with the exception of Mr. Harris, were escorted to the Vice-President's desk by Mr. TURPIN, Mr. GEORGE, and Mr. CAFFEE, respectively, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to them.

The Secretary called the names of—
George L. Wellington, of the State of Maryland.

As their names were called, the Senators-elect were escorted to the desk by Mr. NEWMAN, Mr. CUMBERLAND, Mr. STEWART, and Mr. CHANDLER, respectively, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to them.

The Secretary called the names of—
Thomas C. Platt, of the State of New York.

Jeter C. Pritchard, of the State of North Carolina.

As their names were called, the Senators-elect were escorted to the Vice-President's desk by Mr. QUAY, Mr. TILLMAN, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. CANNON, respectively, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to them.

The Secretary called the names of—
George Turner, of the State of Washington.
John J. McKinley, of the State of Wisconsin.

As their names were called, the Senators-elect were escorted to the Vice-President's desk by Mr. WILSON and Mr. MITCHELL, respectively, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to them.

The Senators-elect have been sworn and taken their seats in the Senate, the following Senators being present:

From the State of—
Alabama—John T. Morgan and Edmund W. Pettus.
Arkansas—James H. Berry and James K. Jones.
California—George G. Robertar and John S. White.
Colorado—Henry W. Toller and Edward W. Wollcott.
Delaware—George Gray and Richard H. Kennedy.
Florida—Samuel F. Babcock.
Georgia—Augustus O. Bacon and Alexander S. Clay.
Idaho—Henry Heitfeld and George L. Shoup.
Illinois—Shelby M. Cullom and William E. Mason.
Indiana—Charles Warren Fairbanks and David Turpie.
Iowa—William B. Allison and John H. Gear.
Kansas—Lucien E. Bade and Redfield Proctor.
Kentucky—William Lindsay.
Louisiana—Donelson Caffery and Samuel Douglas McNeary.
Maine—William J. Frye and Eugene Halle.
Massachusetts—George F. Hoar and Henry Cabot Lodge.
Minnesota—Cushman R. Davis and Knute Nelson.
Mississippi—Edward C. Walthall.
Missouri—Francis M. Cockrell and George G. Vest.
Montana—Thomas J. Walsh and Leo Mantle.
Nebraska—William V. Allen and John M. Thurston.
New Hampshire—William E. Chandler and Jacob H. Gillingham.
New Jersey—William J. Sewell and James Smith, jr.
New York—Edward Murphy, jr., and Thomas C. Platt.
North Carolina—Marion Butler and Jeter C. Pritchard.
Ohio—Joseph B. Foraker and John Sherman.
Oregon—George W. McBride.
Pennsylvania—Boies Penrose and Matthew S. Quay.
Rhode Island—Nelson W. Albee and George P. Wetmore.
South Carolina—Joseph H. Earle and Benjamin R. Tillman.
Tennessee—William C. Bate.
Texas—Horace Chilton and Roger Q. Mills.
Utah—Frank J. Cannon and Joseph L. Rawlings.
Vermont—Justin S. Morrill and Redisfield Proctor.
Virginia—John W. Daniel and Thomas S. Martin.
Wyoming—Clarence D. Clark and Francis E. Warren.

INAUGURAL CEREMONIES.

The persons entitled to admission to the floor of the Senate Chamber having been admitted to the places reserved for them, the President, Hon. WILLIAM CLEVELAND, entered the Senate Chamber, accompanied by the President-elect, Hon. WILLIAM McKinley, of Ohio, and Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. MITCHELL, and Mr. ECKELS, members of the committee of arrangements, and was escorted to a seat in front of the Secretary's desk, and the President-elect and the members of the committee were seated on his right and left.

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

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

The marshal of the Supreme Court and the marshal of the District of Columbia.
The Chief Justice, associate justices, and officers of the Supreme Court.
Ambassadors to the United States.
Ministers to the United States.
Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate and the committee of arrangements.
The President and President-elect.
The Vice-President and Mr. Stevenson.
The Secretary of the Senate and Senators and ex-Senators.
Members of the House, members-elect, and officers.
Governors of States.
Heads of Departments.
Major-General Commanding the Army and the Admiral of the Navy.
All other persons who had been admitted to the floor of the Senate, followed by the occupants of the galleries.

The President of the Senate having been administered to the President-elect by the Chief Justice of the United States, he delivered the following

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

FELLOW-CITIZENS: In obedience to the will of the people, and in their presence, by the authority vested in me by the oath, I assume the arduous and responsible duties of President of the United States, relying on the support of my countrymen and invoking the guidance of Almighty God. Our faith teaches that
The responsibilities of the high trust to which I have been called—always of grave importance—are augmented by the present convulsion, enfolding upon us all, and we are called upon to turn the medium and less to useful enterprises. The country is suffering from industrial disturbances from which speedy relief must be had. Our financial system needs some revision; our money is all good now, but its value must not further be threatened. It should all be put upon an enduring basis, not subject to easy attack, nor its stability to doubt or dispute. Our currency should continue under the seigniorage of foreign powers for former purposes of reserving the United States silver for consumption, and avoiding, for the most part, every form of direct taxation, except in time of war. The country is clearly of credit to the Government, the integrity of its financial system needs some revision; our money is all good now, but it can not last long while the outlays of the Government have been displaced by wiser provisions. With adequate revenue secured, but not until then, we can enter upon such changes in our fiscal laws as will, while insuring safety and volume to our money, not longer impose upon the people the heavy burden of maintaining so large a gold reserve, with its attendant and inevitable temptations to speculation. Most of our financial laws are not well suited to the present exigencies and the measures recommended without investigation and demonstration of the wisdom of the proposed changes. We must be both "sure we are right" and "right sure we are." If, therefore, the distress, in its way, is at least a test of our system, and if, therefore, it is expedient to create a commission to take under early consideration the revision of our coinage, banking, and currency laws, and give them that exhaustive, careful, and dependable examination of the practical and business nature of the present and of any necessity for the change of any part of such action. If such power is vested in the President, it is my purpose to appoint a commission of prominent, well-informed citizens, who will consider the public coinage and public credit, and, on account of their ability and special fitness for the work. Business experience and public training may thus be combined, and the patriotic zeal of the friends of the country be so directed that the country may be sodivided that a vote may be made as to the support of all parties, and our finances cease to be the subject of mere partisan contention. The experiment is, at all events, worth a trial, and, in my judgment, another Congress of 1897.

The question of international bimetallism will have early and earnest attention. It will be my constant endeavor to secure it by cooperation with the other great commercial powers of the world. Until that condition is realized when the parity between our gold and silver money springs from and is supported by the relative value of the two metals, the value of the silver already coined and coined annually in this country will be maintained so large a gold reserve, with its attendant and inevitable temptations to speculation. The credit of the Government, the integrity of its currency, and the industries, which are the sustaining prop of our country, will be endangered by public coinage, public credit, and public expenditure without investigation and demonstration of the wisdom of the proposed changes. We must be both "sure we are right" and "right sure we are." If, therefore, the distress, in its way, is at least a test of our system, and if, therefore, it is expedient to create a commission to take under early consideration the revision of our coinage, banking, and currency laws, and give them that exhaustive, careful, and dependable examination of the practical and business nature of the present and of any necessity for the change of any part of such action. If such power is vested in the President, it is my purpose to appoint a commission of prominent, well-informed citizens, who will consider the public coinage and public credit, and, on account of their ability and special fitness for the work. Business experience and public training may thus be combined, and the patriotic zeal of the friends of the country be so directed that the country may be sodivided that a vote may be made as to the support of all parties, and our finances cease to be the subject of mere partisan contention. The experiment is, at all events, worth a trial, and, in my judgment, another Congress of 1897.

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observance. Equality of rights must prevail and our laws must be always and everywhere respected and obeyed. We may have failed in the discharge of our full duty as citizens of the great Republic. We are more than once guilty of disregarding our Constitution in matters of speech, a free press, free thought, free schools, the free and unmo-

tested right of religious liberty and worship, and free and fair elections. It is not a question of how far we are in arrears of the will of the people, but how far we are falling down in the path of duties which it is our duty to discharge. Such offenses must be remedied. Law and order must be maintained.

One of the lessons taught by the late election, which all can re-

duce, is that the citizens of the United States are both law-respecting and law-abiding people, not easily swerved from the path of patriotism and honor. This is in entire accord with the genius of our institutions, and but emphasizes the advantages of our institutions, and but emphasizes the advantages of

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to-day, is not the triumph of one section, nor wholly of one party, but of all sections and all the people. The North and the South no longer divide on the old lines, but upon principles and policies; and in this fact surely every lover of the country can find cause for true felicitation. Let us rejoice in and cultivate this spirit; it is ennobling and will be both a gain and blessing to our beloved country. It will be my aim, as long as I hold my present position, to do nothing, and permit nothing to be done, that will arrest or disturb this growing sentiment of unity and cooperation, this revival of esteem and affilition which now animates so many thousands in both the old antagonistic sections, but I shall cheerfully do everything possible to promote and increase it.

Let me again repeat the words of the oath administered by the Chief Justice, which, in their respective spheres, so far as applicable, I would have all my countrymen observe: "I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States." This is the obligation I have reverently taken before the Lord Most High. To keep it will be my single purpose, my constant prayer; and I shall confidently rely upon the forbearance and assistance of all the people in the discharge of my solemn responsibilities.

The Senate returned to its Chamber at 2 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m., and the Vice-President resumed the chair.

HOUR OF MEETING.

On motion of Mr. COCKRELL, it was Ordered, That the hour of the daily meeting of the Senate be 12 o'clock m. until otherwise ordered.

Mr. FRYE. I move that the Senate adjourn. The motion was agreed to; and (at 2 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.) the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, Friday, March 5, 1897, at 12 o'clock meridian.

SENATE.

FRIDAY, March 5, 1897.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. W. H. Milburn, D. D.

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

SENATOR FROM OHIO.

Mr. FORAKER presented the credentials of Marcus Alonso Hanna, appointed by the governor of the State of Ohio a Senator from that State to fill, until the next meeting of the legislature thereof, the vacancy caused by the resignation of John Sherman in the term ending March 3, 1899. The credentials were read, and ordered to be filed.

Mr. FORAKER. Mr. Hanna is present, and I ask that he be sworn.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The Senator will take his place at the Vice-President's desk for the purpose of taking the oath of office.

Mr. Hanna was escorted to the Vice-President's desk by Mr. FORAKER, and the oath prescribed by law having been administered to him, he took his seat in the Senate.

NOTIFICATION TO THE PRESIDENT.

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

Resolved, That a committee, to consist of two Senators, be appointed by the chair to wait upon the President of the United States and inform him that a quorum of the Senate is assembled, and that the Senate is ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make.

The VICE-PRESIDENT appointed Mr. ALLISON and Mr. GORMAN as the members of the committee.

ACTING CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS.

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

Resolved, That until otherwise ordered, CUSHMAN K. DAVIS, a Senator from Minnesota, be acting chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations.

RECESS.

Mr. ALDRICH (at 12 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.). I move that the Senate take a recess until a quarter to 1 o'clock. The motion was agreed to; and at the expiration of the recess (at 12 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.) the Senate reassembled.

PETITION.

Mr. HOAR presented the petition of William Giles Dix, of Peabody, Mass., praying for a conference of all the American powers of the Western Continent, to be held in Washington, D.C., to consider means of relief for the suffering and oppressed in Turkey and Greece; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

NOTIFICATION TO THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. ALLISON and Mr. GORMAN, the committee appointed to wait on the President of the United States, appeared at the bar of the Senate, and

Mr. ALLISON said: Mr. President, the committee appointed by resolution of the Senate to wait upon the President and inform him that a quorum of the Senate had assembled and was ready to receive any communication he might wish to make, have executed that duty; and the President requested the committee to extend his kindly greetings, and to inform the Senate that he would communicate immediately with the Senate in writing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

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

Mr. HALE. 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 one hour and fifty-two minutes spent in executive session the doors were reopened, and (at 2 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.) the Senate, on motion of Mr. FAULKNER, adjourned until Monday, March 8, 1897, at 12 o'clock meridian.

NOMINATIONS.

Executive nominations received by the Senate March 5, 1897.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

John Sherman, of Ohio, to be Secretary of State, vice Richard Olney, resigned.

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

Lyman J. Gage, of Illinois, to be Secretary of the Treasury, vice John G. Carlisle, resigned.

SECRETARY OF WAR.

Russell A. Alger, of Michigan, to be Secretary of War, vice Daniel S. Lamont, resigned.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

Joseph McKenna, of California, to be Attorney-General, vice Judson Harmon, resigned.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

James A. Gary, of Maryland, to be Postmaster-General, vice William L. Wilson, resigned.

SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

John D. Long, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of the Navy, vice Hilary A. Herbert, resigned.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

Cornelius N. Bliss, of New York, to be Secretary of the Interior, vice David B. Francis, resigned.

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

James Wilson, of Iowa, to be Secretary of Agriculture, vice J. Sterling Morton, resigned.

CONFIRMATIONS.

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate March 5, 1897.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

John Sherman, of Ohio, to be Secretary of State.

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

Lyman J. Gage, of Illinois, to be Secretary of the Treasury.

SECRETARY OF WAR.

Russell A. Alger, of Michigan, to be Secretary of War.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

Joseph McKenna, of California, to be Attorney-General.

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Cornelius N. Bliss, of New York, to be Secretary of the Interior.

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

James Wilson, of Iowa, to be Secretary of Agriculture.