

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 Thy benediction upon this solemn service, which engages the profoundest interest of our whole nation and enlists the sympathies of all kindred lives and tongues—the induction of Thine honored servants according to the sovereign will of the people 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 clenching their faith to Thee and to the people by kissing 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 equanimity, 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 patriotic 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 ourselves the reign of kindness and good feeling, 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 a conservative, 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, with 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 upon 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 your 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 agreeable; 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 should 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 in the city of Washington on the 4th day of March next, at 12 o'clock noon, of which all persons who shall at that time be entitled to act as members of that body are hereby required to take notice.

Given under my hand and the seal of the United States, at Washington, the 24th day of February, 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.

[SEAL.]

By the President:

RICHARD OLNEY,
Secretary of State.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

SWEARING 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 at a time. It has been suggested, Senators, 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 name of—

Justin S. Morrill, 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 VICE-PRESIDENT. The Secretary will call the names.

The Secretary called the names of—

Edmund W. Pettus, of the State of Alabama.

James K. Jones, of the State of Arkansas.

George C. Perkins, of the State of California.

Henry M. Teller, of the State of Colorado.

As their names were called, the Senators-elect were escorted to the Vice-President's desk by Mr. MORGAN, Mr. BERRY, Mr. WHITE, and Mr. PETTIGREW, 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.

William E. Mason, of the State of Illinois.

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

The Secretary called the names of—

Charles W. Fairbanks, of the State of Indiana.

William B. Allison, of the State of Iowa.

William A. Harris, of the State of Kansas.

Samuel D. McEnery, 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. TURPIE, Mr. GEAR, and Mr. CAFFERY, 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.

George G. Vest, of the State of Missouri.

John P. Jones, of the State of Nevada.

Jacob H. Gallinger, of the State of New Hampshire.

As their names were called, the Senators-elect were escorted to the Vice-President's desk by Mr. GORMAN, Mr. COCKRELL, 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.

Henry C. Hansbrough, of the State of North Dakota.

Joseph B. Foraker, of the State of Ohio.

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

The Secretary called the names of—

Boies Penrose, of the State of Pennsylvania.

Joseph H. Earle, of the State of South Carolina.

James H. Kyle, of the State of South Dakota.

Joseph L. Rawlins, of the State of Utah.

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 C. Spooner, 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.

SENATORS PRESENT.

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

From the State of—

Alabama—John T. Morgan and Edmund W. Pettus.

Arkansas—James H. Berry and James K. Jones.

California—George C. Perkins and Stephen M. White.

Colorado—Henry M. Teller and Edward O. Wolcott.

Connecticut—Joseph R. Hawley and Orville H. Platt.

Delaware—George Gray and Richard R. Kenney.

Florida—Samuel Pasco.

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 Baker.

Kentucky—William Lindsay.

Louisiana—Donelson Caffery and Samuel Douglas McEnery.

Maine—William P. Frye and Eugene Hale.

Maryland—Arthur P. Gorman and George L. Wellington.

Massachusetts—George F. Hoar and Henry Cabot Lodge.

Michigan—Julius C. Burrows and James McMillan.

Minnesota—Cushman K. Davis and Knute Nelson.

Mississippi—Edward C. Walthall.

Missouri—Francis M. Cockrell and George G. Vest.

Montana—Thomas H. Carter and Lee Mantle.

Nebraska—William V. Allen and John M. Thurston.

Nevada—John P. Jones and William M. Stewart.

New Hampshire—William E. Chandler and Jacob H. Gallinger.

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.

North Dakota—Henry C. Hansbrough and William N. Roach.

Ohio—Joseph B. Foraker and John Sherman.

Oregon—George W. McBride.

Pennsylvania—Boies Penrose and Matthew S. Quay.

Rhode Island—Nelson W. Aldrich and George P. Wetmore.

South Carolina—Joseph H. Earle and Benjamin R. Tillman.

South Dakota—James H. Kyle and R. F. Pettigrew.

Tennessee—William B. Bate.

Texas—Horace Chilton and Roger Q. Mills.

Utah—Frank J. Cannon and Joseph L. Rawlins.

Vermont—Justin S. Morrill and Redfield Proctor.

Virginia—John W. Daniel and Thomas S. Martin.

Washington—George Turner and John L. Wilson.

West Virginia—Stephen B. Elkins and Charles J. Faulkner.

Wisconsin—John L. Mitchell and John C. Spooner.

Wyoming—Clarence D. Clark and Francis E. Warren.

INAUGURATION 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. GROVER CLEVELAND, entered the Senate Chamber, accompanied by the President-elect, Hon. WILLIAM MCKINLEY, of Ohio, and Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. MITCHELL, and Mr. ELKINS, 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.

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.

Those 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 oath of office 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 this 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

there is no safer reliance than upon the God of our fathers, who has so singularly favored the American people in every national trial, and who will not forsake us so long as we obey His commandments and walk humbly in His footsteps.

The responsibilities of the high trust to which I have been called—always of grave importance—are augmented by the prevailing business conditions, entailing idleness upon willing labor and loss 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 supervision of the Government. The several forms of our paper money offer, in my judgment, a constant embarrassment to the Government and a safe balance in the Treasury. Therefore I believe it necessary to devise a system which, without diminishing the circulating medium or offering a premium for its contraction, will present a remedy for those arrangements which, temporary in their nature, might well in the years of our prosperity 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, no longer impose upon the Government the necessity of maintaining so large a gold reserve, with its attendant and inevitable temptations to speculation. Most of our financial laws are the outgrowth of experience and trial, and should not be amended without investigation and demonstration of the wisdom of the proposed changes. We must be both "sure we are right" and "make haste slowly." If, therefore, Congress in its wisdom shall deem it 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 dispassionate examination that their importance demands, I shall cordially concur in such action. If such power is vested in the President, it is my purpose to appoint a commission of prominent, well-informed citizens of different parties, who will command public confidence both 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 such a report will be made as to receive 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 opinion, it can but prove beneficial to the entire country.

The question of international bimetalism 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 of that which may hereafter be coined must be kept constantly at par with gold by every resource at our command. The credit of the Government, the integrity of its currency, and the inviolability of its obligations must be preserved. This was the commanding verdict of the people, and it will not be unheeded.

Economy is demanded in every branch of the Government at all times, but especially in periods, like the present, of depression in business and distress among the people. The severest economy must be observed in all public expenditures, and extravagance stopped wherever it is found, and prevented wherever in the future it may be developed. If the revenues are to remain as now, the only relief that can come must be from decreased expenditures. But the present must not become the permanent condition of the Government. It has been our uniform practice to retire, not increase, our outstanding obligations, and this policy must again be resumed and vigorously enforced. Our revenues should always be large enough to meet with ease and promptness not only our current needs and the principal and interest of the public debt, but to make proper and liberal provision for that most deserving body of public creditors, the soldiers and sailors and the widows and orphans who are the pensioners of the United States.

The Government should not be permitted to run behind or increase its debt in times like the present. Suitably to provide against this is the mandate of duty—the certain and easy remedy for most of our financial difficulties. A deficiency is inevitable so long as the expenditures of the Government exceed its receipts. It can only be met by loans or an increased revenue. While a large annual surplus of revenue may invite waste and extravagance, inadequate revenue creates distrust and undermines public and private credit. Neither should be encouraged. Between more loans and more revenue there ought to be but one opinion. We should have more revenue, and that without delay, hindrance, or postponement. A surplus in the Treasury created by loans is not a permanent or safe reliance. It will suffice while it lasts, but it can not last long while the outlays of the Government are greater than its receipts, as has been the case during the past two years. Nor must it be forgotten that however much such loans

may temporarily relieve the situation, the Government is still indebted for the amount of the surplus thus accrued, which it must ultimately pay, while its ability to pay is not strengthened, but weakened by a continued deficit. Loans are imperative in great emergencies to preserve the Government or its credit, but a failure to supply needed revenue in time of peace for the maintenance of either has no justification.

The best way for the Government to maintain its credit is to pay as it goes—not by resorting to loans, but by keeping out of debt—through an adequate income secured by a system of taxation, external or internal, or both. It is the settled policy of the Government, pursued from the beginning and practiced by all parties and Administrations, to raise the bulk of our revenue from taxes upon foreign productions entering the United States for sale and consumption, and avoiding, for the most part, every form of direct taxation, except in time of war. The country is clearly opposed to any needless additions to the subjects of internal taxation, and is committed by its latest popular utterance to the system of tariff taxation. There can be no misunderstanding, either, about the principle upon which this tariff taxation shall be levied. Nothing has ever been made plainer at a general election than that the controlling principle in the raising of revenue from duties on imports is zealous care for American interests and American labor. The people have declared that such legislation should be had as will give ample protection and encouragement to the industries and the development of our country. It is, therefore, earnestly hoped and expected that Congress will, at the earliest practicable moment, enact revenue legislation that shall be fair, reasonable, conservative, and just, and which, while supplying sufficient revenue for public purposes, will still be signally beneficial and helpful to every section and every enterprise of the people. To this policy we are all, of whatever party, firmly bound by the voice of the people—a power vastly more potential than the expression of any political platform. The paramount duty of Congress is to stop deficiencies by the restoration of that protective legislation which has always been the firmest prop of the Treasury. The passage of such a law or laws would strengthen the credit of the Government both at home and abroad, and go far toward stopping the drain upon the gold reserve held for the redemption of our currency, which has been heavy and well-nigh constant for several years.

In the revision of the tariff especial attention should be given to the reenactment and extension of the reciprocity principle of the law of 1890, under which so great a stimulus was given to our foreign trade in new and advantageous markets for our surplus agricultural and manufactured products. The brief trial given this legislation amply justifies a further experiment and additional discretionary power in the making of commercial treaties, the end in view always to be the opening up of new markets for the products of our country, by granting concessions to the products of other lands that we need and can not produce ourselves, and which do not involve any loss of labor to our own people, but tend to increase their employment.

The depression of the past four years has fallen with especial severity upon the great body of toilers of the country, and upon none more than the holders of small farms. Agriculture has languished and labor suffered. The revival of manufacturing will be a relief to both. No portion of our population is more devoted to the institutions of free government nor more loyal in their support, while none bears more cheerfully or fully its proper share in the maintenance of the Government or is better entitled to its wise and liberal care and protection. Legislation helpful to producers is beneficial to all. The depressed condition of industry on the farm and in the mine and factory has lessened the ability of the people to meet the demands upon them, and they rightfully expect that not only a system of revenue shall be established that will secure the largest income with the least burden, but that every means will be taken to decrease, rather than increase, our public expenditures. Business conditions are not the most promising. It will take time to restore the prosperity of former years. If we can not promptly attain it, we can resolutely turn our faces in that direction and aid its return by friendly legislation. However troublesome the situation may appear, Congress will not, I am sure, be found lacking in disposition or ability to relieve it as far as legislation can do so. The restoration of confidence and the revival of business, which men of all parties so much desire, depend more largely upon the prompt, energetic, and intelligent action of Congress than upon any other single agency affecting the situation.

It is inspiring, too, to remember that no great emergency in the one hundred and eight years of our eventful national life has ever arisen that has not been met with wisdom and courage by the American people, with fidelity to their best interests and highest destiny, and to the honor of the American name. These years of glorious history have exalted mankind and advanced the cause of freedom throughout the world and immeasurably strengthened the precious free institutions which we enjoy. The people love

and will sustain these institutions. The great essential to our happiness and prosperity is that we adhere to the principles upon which the Government was established and insist upon their faithful observance. Equality of rights must prevail and our laws be always and everywhere respected and obeyed. We may have failed in the discharge of our full duty as citizens of the great Republic, but it is consoling and encouraging to realize that free speech, a free press, free thought, free schools, the free and unmolested right of religious liberty and worship, and free and fair elections are dearer and more universally enjoyed to-day than ever before. These guaranties must be sacredly preserved and wisely strengthened. The constituted authorities must be cheerfully and vigorously upheld. Lynchings must not be tolerated in a great and civilized country like the United States; courts, not mobs, must execute the penalties of the law. The preservation of public order, the right of discussion, the integrity of courts, and the orderly administration of justice must continue forever the rock of safety upon which our Government securely rests.

One of the lessons taught by the late election, which all can rejoice in, 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 inculcating even a greater love for law and order in the future. Immunity should be granted to none who violate the laws, whether individuals, corporations, or communities; and as the Constitution imposes upon the President the duty of both its own execution, and of the statutes enacted in pursuance of its provisions, I shall endeavor carefully to carry them into effect. The declaration of the party now restored to power has been in the past that of "opposition to all combinations of capital organized in trusts, or otherwise, to control arbitrarily the condition of trade among our citizens," and it has supported "such legislation as will prevent the execution of all schemes to oppress the people by undue charges on their supplies, or by unjust rates for the transportation of their products to market." This purpose will be steadily pursued, both by the enforcement of the laws now in existence and the recommendation and support of such new statutes as may be necessary to carry it into effect.

Our naturalization and immigration laws should be further improved to the constant promotion of a safer, a better, and a higher citizenship. A grave peril to the Republic would be a citizenship too ignorant to understand or too vicious to appreciate the great value and beneficence of our institutions and laws, and against all who come here to make war upon them our gates must be promptly and tightly closed. Nor must we be unmindful of the need of improvement among our own citizens, but with the zeal of our forefathers encourage the spread of knowledge and free education. Illiteracy must be banished from the land if we shall attain that high destiny as the foremost of the enlightened nations of the world which, under Providence, we ought to achieve.

Reforms in the civil service must go on; but the changes should be real and genuine, not perfunctory, or prompted by a zeal in behalf of any party simply because it happens to be in power. As a member of Congress I voted and spoke in favor of the present law, and I shall attempt its enforcement in the spirit in which it was enacted. The purpose in view was to secure the most efficient service of the best men who would accept appointment under the Government, retaining faithful and devoted public servants in office, but shielding none, under the authority of any rule or custom, who are inefficient, incompetent, or unworthy. The best interests of the country demand this, and the people heartily approve the law wherever and whenever it has been thus administered.

Congress should give prompt attention to the restoration of our American merchant marine, once the pride of the seas in all the great ocean highways of commerce. To my mind, few more important subjects so imperatively demand its intelligent consideration. The United States has progressed with marvelous rapidity in every field of enterprise and endeavor until we have become foremost in nearly all the great lines of inland trade, commerce, and industry. Yet, while this is true, our American merchant marine has been steadily declining until it is now lower, both in the percentage of tonnage and the number of vessels employed, than it was prior to the civil war. Commendable progress has been made of late years in the upbuilding of the American Navy, but we must supplement these efforts by providing as a proper consort for it a merchant marine amply sufficient for our own carrying trade to foreign countries. The question is one that appeals both to our business necessities and the patriotic aspirations of a great people.

It has been the policy of the United States since the foundation of the Government to cultivate relations of peace and amity with all the nations of the world, and this accords with my conception of our duty now. We have cherished the policy of noninterference with the affairs of foreign governments wisely inaugurated by Washington, keeping ourselves free from entanglement, either as

allies or foes, content to leave undisturbed with them the settlement of their own domestic concerns. It will be our aim to pursue a firm and dignified foreign policy, which shall be just, impartial, ever watchful of our national honor, and always insisting upon the enforcement of the lawful rights of American citizens everywhere. Our diplomacy should seek nothing more and accept nothing less than is due us. We want no wars of conquest; we must avoid the temptation of territorial aggression. War should never be entered upon until every agency of peace has failed; peace is preferable to war in almost every contingency. Arbitration is the true method of settlement of international as well as local or individual differences. It was recognized as the best means of adjustment of differences between employers and employees by the Forty-ninth Congress, in 1886, and its application was extended to our diplomatic relations by the unanimous concurrence of the Senate and House of the Fifty-first Congress in 1890. The latter resolution was accepted as the basis of negotiations with us by the British House of Commons in 1893, and upon our invitation a treaty of arbitration between the United States and Great Britain was signed at Washington and transmitted to the Senate for its ratification in January last. Since this treaty is clearly the result of our own initiative; since it has been recognized as the leading feature of our foreign policy throughout our entire national history—the adjustment of difficulties by judicial methods rather than force of arms—and since it presents to the world the glorious example of reason and peace, not passion and war, controlling the relations between two of the greatest nations in the world, an example certain to be followed by others, I respectfully urge the early action of the Senate thereon, not merely as a matter of policy, but as a duty to mankind. The importance and moral influence of the ratification of such a treaty can hardly be overestimated in the cause of advancing civilization. It may well engage the best thought of the statesmen and people of every country, and I can not but consider it fortunate that it was reserved to the United States to have the leadership in so grand a work.

It has been the uniform practice of each President to avoid, as far as possible, the convening of Congress in extraordinary session. It is an example which, under ordinary circumstances and in the absence of a public necessity, is to be commended. But a failure to convene the representatives of the people in Congress in extra session when it involves neglect of a public duty places the responsibility of such neglect upon the Executive himself. The condition of the public Treasury, as has been indicated, demands the immediate consideration of Congress. It alone has the power to provide revenues for the Government. Not to convene it under such circumstances I can view in no other sense than the neglect of a plain duty. I do not sympathize with the sentiment that Congress in session is dangerous to our general business interests. Its members are the agents of the people, and their presence at the seat of government in the execution of the sovereign will should not operate as an injury, but a benefit. There could be no better time to put the Government upon a sound financial and economic basis than now. The people have only recently voted that this should be done, and nothing is more binding upon the agents of their will than the obligation of immediate action. It has always seemed to me that the postponement of the meeting of Congress until more than a year after it has been chosen deprived Congress too often of the inspiration of the popular will and the country of the corresponding benefits. It is evident, therefore, that to postpone action in the presence of so great a necessity would be unwise on the part of the Executive because unjust to the interests of the people. Our actions now will be freer from mere partisan consideration than if the question of tariff revision was postponed until the regular session of Congress. We are nearly two years from a Congressional election, and politics can not so greatly distract us as if such contest was immediately pending. We can approach the problem calmly and patriotically, without fearing its effect upon an early election. Our fellow-citizens who may disagree with us upon the character of this legislation prefer to have the question settled now, even against their preconceived views, and perhaps settled so reasonably, as I trust and believe it will be, as to insure great permanence, than to have further uncertainty menacing the vast and varied business interests of the United States. Again, whatever action Congress may take will be given a fair opportunity for trial before the people are called to pass judgment upon it, and this I consider a great essential to the rightful and lasting settlement of the question. In view of these considerations, I shall deem it my duty as President to convene Congress in extraordinary session on Monday, the 15th day of March, 1897.

In conclusion, I congratulate the country upon the fraternal spirit of the people and the manifestations of good will everywhere so apparent. The recent election not only most fortunately demonstrated the obliteration of sectional or geographical lines, but to some extent also the prejudices which for years have distracted our councils and marred our true greatness as a nation. The triumph of the people, whose verdict is carried into effect

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 constant aim 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 affiliation 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. FAULKNER. 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 Alonzo 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 R. 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.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

James A. Gary, of Maryland, to be Postmaster-General.

SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

John D. Long, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of the Navy.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

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

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

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