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James V. Ganly

Memorial Addresses

DELIVERED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN MEMORY OF

JAMES V. GANLY

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM NEW YORK

Sixty-Eighth Congress

MAY 4, 1924

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
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Proceedings
in the
House of Representatives

James V. Ganly

Proceedings in the House of Representatives

WEDNESDAY, *December 5, 1923.*

Mr. CAREW. Mr. Speaker, it is my melancholy duty to announce to this House that since the elections of 1922, at which this House was elected, three distinguished citizens of the State of New York, who were then chosen for membership in this House, have passed away. In the last year or so death has stricken many a shining mark in this country of ours. We all recall the sadness with which we heard that on the 1st day of last March, after a speech upon this floor, which was marked with all the eloquence and learning, the grace, philosophy, and statesmanship that characterized everything he did, the Hon. William Bourke Cockran, a Member from the State of New York, a few hours later at his home was stricken and before morning died. Then again on April 28 last a distinguished Representative of the State of New York, a veteran in this Chamber, who, although Congress was not in session, was nevertheless here engaged in the performance of the many duties that came to him, the Hon. Daniel J. Riordan, while in his office in the House Office Building, was stricken and later in the night died.

Then again, later in the summer, on September 7 last, another Member who had been here before, the Hon. JAMES V. GANLY, from the State of New York, met with sudden death at his home.

These bereavements of ours have mellowed the spirit of partisanship which otherwise might actuate us. We bow our heads with the grief of the country in our own personal bereavement, which in these instances came so closely home to so many of us.

I offer these resolutions, Mr. Speaker, and ask for their adoption. At some future time I shall ask the House to set apart some appropriate occasion when suitable tribute may be paid to the distinguished services and memory of these most well-beloved friends of ours.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the resolutions.

The Clerk read (H. Res. 15) as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. JAMES V. GANLY, a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. LONGWORTH. Mr. Speaker, as a further mark of respect to the memory of our deceased colleagues, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; and accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 40 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned until to-morrow, Thursday, December 6, 1923, at 12 o'clock noon.

THURSDAY, *December 13, 1923.*

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Craven, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. JAMES V. GANLY, late a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved further, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

FRIDAY, *April 11, 1924.*

Mr. CAREW. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that on Sunday, May 4, 1924, at 3 o'clock p. m., the House may assemble to hold memorial exercises in honor of the late William Bourke Cockran, Daniel J. Riordan, Luther W. Mott, and JAMES V. GANLY, all Members elected to this House and who have since died.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from New York asks unanimous consent that there may be a session of the House on Sunday, May 4, 1924, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of holding memorial exercises on the deceased Members named. Is there objection? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none.

SUNDAY, *May 4, 1924.*

The House met at 3 o'clock p. m., and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore, Hon. James S. Parker, of New York.

Rev. M. J. Riordan, pastor of St. Martin's Church, Washington, D. C., offered the following prayer:

Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice; let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. If Thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee, that Thou mayest be feared. I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in His word do I hope. My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning. Let Israel hope in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will read the special order for to-day.

The Clerk read as follows:

On motion of Mr. Carew, by unanimous consent—

Ordered, That Sunday, May 4, 1924, at 3 o'clock p. m., be set apart for addresses on the life, character, and public services of Hon. W. Bourke Cockran, Hon. Daniel J. Riordan, Hon. Luther W. Mott, and Hon. JAMES V. GANLY, late Representatives from the State of New York.

Mr. CAREW. Mr. Speaker, I offer the following resolutions.

The Clerk read (H. Res. 283) as follows:

Resolved, That the business of the House be now suspended, that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of Hon. W. Bourke Cockran, Hon. Daniel J. Riordan, Hon. Luther W. Mott, and Hon. JAMES V. GANLY, late Members of the House from the State of New York.

JAMES V. GANLY

Resolved, That Members be granted leave to extend their remarks on the life, character, and public services of the late Representatives.

Resolved, That, as a particular mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, and in recognition of their distinguished public careers, the House, at the conclusion of these exercises, shall stand adjourned.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

Resolved, That the Clerk send copies of these resolutions to the families of the deceased.

The resolutions were agreed to.

Address by Representative Mead

Of New York

Mr. SPEAKER: JAMES VINCENT GANLY, who represented the twenty-fourth congressional district of New York in the House of Representatives, was born in the city of New York September 13, 1878, in which city he received his education. In 1907 he began his public career as a member of the New York State Legislature, and when Bronx County was created he became its first county clerk, serving in that office from 1914 until he was elected to Congress in 1918.

Coming to Congress the same year from New York State and being affiliated with the same political party, we became fast friends. I learned to admire his manly traits and to respect the integrity of his character. He assumed the responsibilities of his office with the fervor and devotion of a loyal and patriotic citizen. He worked faithfully and earnestly in the discharge of his official duties, and although serving but one term he more than proved his ability and gave promise of attaining greater heights in his official career. Shortly after his reelection in 1922 we were shocked to learn of his tragic death.

What a mysterious messenger death is! Striking at times in the evening of life when mortal man's mission here below seems completed, and again, as in the case of our departed colleague,

Mr. Ganly, in the prime of life, at the very beginning of what gave every evidence of being a most useful and promising public service. But while death is harder to bear and more difficult to comprehend when it occurs at such an early period of one's existence, we must place our trust in our Heavenly Father, who knows and does that which is best. Into His care we commend the spirit of our departed friend.

Address by Representative Cullen

Of New York

Mr. SPEAKER: Putting our thoughts in language that will properly express our feelings toward departed friends is, indeed, a hard task. To pay fitting tribute to four statesmen like William Bourke Cockran, Daniel J. Riordan, Luther W. Mott, and JAMES VINCENT GANLY is doubly hard, because their passing is a loss not only to their families and friends but is a loss to the entire Empire State and to the Nation.

I personally deeply mourn the passing away of Daniel J. Riordan, W. Bourke Cockran, Luther W. Mott, and JAMES VINCENT GANLY, all of whom typified the highest ideals and the very noblest and best American manhood and statesmanship. And thus I bid farewell to beloved friends and colleagues and leave them to the rest that they have so nobly earned, the rest which is the portion of the just till they are called to the dawn of the eternal day.

Address by Representative Fairchild

Of New York

Mr. SPEAKER: To-day with me is a day of real mourning, as we are assembled here in memorial services for four of our colleagues who have gone to the great beyond. Those among us who knew Daniel J. Riordan the more intimately will speak of his splendid qualifications that endeared him to the memory of all who knew him. My closer acquaintance with my colleague and party associate, Luther W. Mott; with my committee associate on the Foreign Affairs Committee, my lovable friend William Bourke Cockran; and my deep-seated regard for my three times opponent and good friend, JAMES VINCENT GANLY, leads me in reference to them to express in a few words my feeling of personal loss. To each and all of the loved ones in homes made desolate our hearts go out in deepest sympathy.

To-day I feel like speaking more particularly of JAMES VINCENT GANLY. I met him first in the 1918 campaign, when he was my political opponent and defeated me in the election for Congress. I shall never forget when first we met and clapsed hands during the early part of that campaign. Until that meeting I had heard of him only as my opponent. From the minute that I held his hand in mine and met him face to face I knew him as my friend. We went through three campaigns as political opponents, but as personal friends. He defeated

me in 1918. I was the victor in 1920, but again surrendered the laurels to him in 1922. With the experience of three such campaigns I can speak with authority. He always fought fairly. Throughout three successive campaigns there was never an incident that left a feeling of rancor, and throughout three successive campaigns, with the battle lines fiercely drawn, our personal friendship for one another became closer and closer. When the news of his sudden death came to me last summer in a telegram, which reached me in camp in the wilds of the high Sierras, calling me home for another campaign I felt saddened with the sense of a personal loss. My heart responds in unison with my tongue when I pay here to-day a deserved tribute to the memory of one always loyal in his friendships and true to the cause he espoused. Everyone who knew him deeply regretted his death, but no one more than I.

Address by Representative Little

Of Kansas

Mr. SPEAKER: Eight years in the American House of Representatives is the greatest education our country now affords to an American citizen. Those of us who saw the sunrise of our lives from the doors of a junior western school, now become a great university, had a glimpse of the world that came when we were young and everything was new to us. We unrolled the ancient books of life and read in shining letters the history and philosophy of the world when it was worth reading—

> When all the world was young, lad,
> And all the trees were green,
> When all the geese were swans, lad,
> And every lass a queen.

Those who assembled around the altars of Harvard and Yale and those famous American schools enjoyed all the advantages that come with the development of American history and American citizenship. Others who trod the halls of Oxford or drank beer on the tables of Heidelberg or Vienna or Paris got a glimpse of everything in Europe worth while. In the Mosque of Elhazar, at Cairo, those of us who love mankind saw the youth of the whole Mohammedan world on exhibition at its studies and drank deep of the mysteries of that ancient abode of learning. Some have improved their resources and polished their

attainments by weeks in Japan, or China, among the places where the world was born. They sipped of the wisdom of Confucius and learned with astonishment of the 300-year-old statecraft and poetry of Ieavasu.

When we came here we knew that there were kings before Agamemnon and generals from whom Cæsar and Alexander learned the art of war. By the time that the average man came to this Hall he was on reasonably familiar terms with the characters and capacities of the great millionaire princes who so dominate the public and private life of this country. He may have known the youth of his native land showing its best on the field of battle for his country on the other side of the world. He may perhaps have lived in the palaces of the most ancient country of the Mediterranean East and spent many hours at the foot of the Sphinx, still keeping her own counsel. At any rate, he had known men in all walks of life and in all measures of victory and defeat. But never until he came here and received the diploma of several years' experience among his colleagues could he possibly have sounded all the depths that are now in the souls and hearts of his countrymen, sent to represent them here with all the powers of this mighty Republic. However provincial his feeling may have been, however narrow his views, he learned here the higher values of human nature, a broader and more generous understanding and comprehension of its attributes, and a kindlier sympathy with all its ambitions. Here I finally

learned the absolute truth of a little verse my mother taught me:

> In men whom men condemn as ill
> I see so much of goodness still,
> In men whom men pronounce divine
> I see so much of sin and blot,
> I hesitate to draw the line
> Between the two where God has not.

When we assemble in this Hall to pay tribute to the memories of our departed colleagues we fully realize the responsibilities and duties that bring us here and the value of their association and services. On this day all are equal. Millionaire and mendicant, sultan and slave, sage and simple, all march to the same music through that grim and ghostly cordon beyond which we may well all meet when the sun goes down.

When I came here, for example, Tammany Hall was a harsh word, and its denizens were subjects of my very stern suspicion. I saw at the head of the great appropriations of this country a man whose outstanding characteristic was absolute integrity and who came here from that great political headquarters. To my astonishment I found that in the very prime of his political career and the very summit of his political mastery of the wealth of the Republic he abandoned an assured seat in this House to go home and make a living for his family and start them in life. Moved by a sudden but matured and very natural impulse, I went to John J. Fitzgerald and apologized to him for my early misconception of him and told him that his departure was a very distinct and important loss to this country, and that I was proud to

have been the colleague of so brilliant, so able, and so honest a gentleman.

This day death takes a heavy toll of our colleagues of Tammany Hall and of its environment and friends. It writes on the wall this day the name of Bourke Cockran, the greatest orator of the House; of Luther Mott, who leaves to posterity a record of faithful industry and loyal adherence to the great causes of woman suffrage and prohibition, which stamps his as a name long to be remembered in the councils of the upper State of New York; of Daniel Riordan, who was an honest gentleman, kind and courteous, and at all times actuated by the motive of service to his constituency; and of JAMES V. GANLY, who departed this life at the very time when he gave evidence of a most useful and promising public career, who labored zealously in discharging his duties, and in the short time that he was here gained the respect of his fellow Members.

We may well doubt whether on any one day in our career in this House any of us shall see fate snatch so brilliant a page from our books of membership. Except one or two great names, most of them pass off unwept, unhonored, and unsung among the constituents who sent us here from the West, but they all carry with them the profound respect and affection of the colleagues with whom they are best acquainted in this House. We know that they all have at home this day in the great metropolitan city vast audiences which assemble to pay due and well-deserved respect to their memories. We know that this night in the great

New York City there will be many sad hearts and many sorrowful homes where they are held in loving and gracious memory, to which they are well entitled. We will spread on the record of this Congress forever these feeble testimonies to their high character, their sound patriotism, and their many talents, so that the young men and the young women of this country for the next century may find the record and from it broaden their respect for their own great country of which we are all a part.

Address by Representative Griffin

Of New York

Mr. SPEAKER: During the past year there has hardly been a month in which we have not been called upon to pay solemn tribute to the memory of some Member of our House who has been summoned to enter the mysterious portals of eternity.

Since the Sixty-eighth Congress has begun its career 16 of our Members have answered the imperative summons. Four times has the Herald of Death addressed that summons to the delegation from the Empire State.

First, William Bourke Cockran, the scholar and finished orator, who in eloquent periods so often reverberating within this Chamber pictured the past, presaged the future, and drew from the bounteous stores of his mighty brain wise counsels for the present.

Then Daniel J. Riordan, that incomparable man, whose personality, without the meretricious aid of empty pretense, wielded so powerful an influence upon his colleagues throughout the long period of his legislative service.

The summons then came to Luther Wright Mott, the refined and delicate scholar, courtly yet sincere, whose service of seven terms at great personal sacrifice was a credit to his fidelity, an honor to his constituency, and a boon to his country.

Lastly, JAMES VINCENT GANLY answered the imperious call. His death came as a bolt from a

clear sky and grieved intensely all who knew and loved him. The very circumstances of the fatal accident which marked him for sacrifice were profoundly and significantly indicative of his generous, kindly nature.

He was driving his car upon a tortuous stretch of country road, and putting into practice what he had so often preached, namely, the doctrine of courtesy, he turned off his course to make room for a car coming toward him around a curve.

His magnanimity, always stronger than his love of self, gave way too much. His vehicle struck the stump of a tree, was overturned, and he was impaled—a martyr to the kindly impulses of his generous heart.

James Vincent Ganly was born in the city of New York on September 13, 1878. He attended the public schools and, having an ambition for a business career, continued his education in a commercial school. He was successful in his chosen calling. He did not enter politics for a living, but after he had made a name for himself for business ability and personal integrity he ran for the assembly and was elected. He served but one term, and that was during the year 1907. At the conclusion of this political experience he continued his application to his business with renewed zeal.

On June 14, 1911, he married Miss Mary R. Leddy, a handsome and charming girl who made him a devoted wife—one who shared in all his joys and sorrows and contributed largely by her wise counsel and indefatigable zeal to promote his subsequent political successes.

In 1913, when the new county of the Bronx was organized, he was drafted as a candidate for the important office of county clerk. He was elected triumphantly, and, when he was sworn in on January 1, 1914, it became his duty to organize the new office. His long experience in business enabled him to do this so successfully that the Bronx County clerk's office very soon became known as one of the most orderly, systematic, and efficient in the entire State. Here is where his personality exercised a striking influence: His own inherent courtesy spread itself indefinably and was communicated to the entire office force, who, during his incumbency, and even since, has been distinguished by the sterling marks of courtesy, efficiency, and integrity.

At the conclusion of his term he was elected to the Sixty-sixth Congress. In 1920 he went down to defeat in a closely but honorably fought campaign. His kindly greeting was missed in the Sixty-seventh Congress. In 1923 he was once again elected to Congress, but was not destined to live out his term. His untimely death on September 7, 1923, cut short an honorable and promising legislative career.

To-day we unite to pay this slight tribute to his memory, and when these words shall have been forgotten those who knew him will long cherish and remember their genial friend and kindly colleague, JAMES VINCENT GANLY.

Good deeds, however humble, still survive. The conquering hero may lash the surface of life into huge billows, carrying destruction in their wake,

but the lowly elements hidden in its depths give the ocean its stability, its color, and its strength.

> For nothing dies—nor deed nor word nor thought—
> Although their memory perchance may fade.

If this be true, the beautiful, the calm, and stormless life of GANLY was of as deep import to his time as though he reached the highest pinnacle of human glory.

It can not be said of him that his eloquence shook the battlements of fame. He made no adventures into novel spheres. He resorted to no showy expedients to attract the crowd or attain ephemeral distinction. His life was simple, his aims modest. He sought only to be kind, to be just, to be true; and he loved his fellow men.

In accordance with the order heretofore made and as a further mark of respect (at 5 o'clock and 50 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned until to-morrow, Monday, May 5, 1924, at 12 o'clock noon.

Proceedings
in the
United States Senate

Proceedings in the United States Senate

THURSDAY, *December 6, 1923.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Chaffee, one of its clerks, communicated to the Senate the intelligence of the death of Hon. JAMES V. GANLY, late a Representative from the State of New York, and transmitted the resolutions of the House thereon.

MONDAY, *December 10, 1923.*

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate a resolution (H. Res. 15) of the House of Representatives, which was read, as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. JAMES V. GANLY, a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect this House do now adjourn.

Mr. COPELAND. Mr. President, I submit a resolution, and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The resolution (S. Res. 46) was read, considered by unanimous consent, and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. JAMES V. GANLY, late a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved further, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Mr. WADSWORTH. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Representative whose death has just been announced, I move that the Senate do now adjourn.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 2 o'clock and 30 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, Tuesday, December 11, 1923, at 12 o'clock meridian.

MONDAY, *May 5, 1924.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Haltigan, one of its clerks, communicated to the Senate the resolutions (H. Res. 283) of the House adopted as a tribute to the memory of Hon. W. Bourke Cockran, Hon. Daniel J. Riordan, Hon. Luther W. Mott, and Hon. JAMES V. GANLY, late Representatives from the State of New York.