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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IT IS A LONG DOCUMENT AND IS DEVOTED ALMOST ENTIRELY TO A DISCUSSION OF THE FINANCIAL QUESTION.

THE RETIREMENT OF GREENBACKS RECOMMENDED

Mr. Cleveland Proposes That the Currency Withdrawn be Supplied by Such Gold as Would be Used in Their Retirement or by the Increase in the Circulation of National Banks as Well as by the Coinage of the Seignorage and Other Silver Bull on Now in the Treasury--Recommended That Banks be Allowed to Issue Circulation to the Par Value of the Bonds Deposited and That the Tax on Their Circulation be Reduced to One-fourth of One Per Cent--A Discussion of all Our Foreign Relations.

To the Congress of the United States:

The present assemblage of the legislative branch of our Government occurs at a time when the interests of our people and the needs of the country give especial prominence to the condition of our foreign relations and the exigencies of our national finances. The reports of the several administration departments of the Government fully and plainly exhibit what has been accomplished within the scope of their respective duties, and present such recommendations for the betterment of our country's condition as patriotic and intelligent labor and observation suggest. I therefore deem my executive duty adequately performed at this time by presenting to the Congress the important phases of our situation as related to our intercourse with foreign nations, and a statement of the financial problems which confront us, omitting, except as they are related to these topics, any reference to departmental operations.

I earnestly invite, however, not only the careful consideration but the severely critical scrutiny of the Congress and my fellow countrymen to the reports concerning these departmental operations. If justly and fairly examined they will furnish proof of assiduous and painstaking care for the public welfare. I press the recommendations they contain upon the respectful attention of those charged with the duty of legislation, because I believe their adoption would promote the people's good.

GOOD EFFECT OF TARIFF.

By amendatory tariff legislation in January last, the Argentine Republic, recognizing the value of the large market opened to the free importation of its wools under our last tariff act, has admitted certain products of the United States to entry at reduced duties. It is pleasing to note that the efforts we have made to enlarge the exchange of trade on a sound basis of mutual benefit are in this instance appreciated by the country from which our woolen factories draw their needful supply of raw material.

BOUNDARY DISPUTE SETTLED.

The mission boundary dispute between the Argentine Republic and Brazil, referred to the President of the United States as arbitrator during the term of my predecessor, and which was submitted to me for determination, resulted in an award in favor of Brazil upon the historical and documentary evidence presented, thus ending a long protracted controversy and again demonstrating the wisdom and desirability of settling international boundary disputes by recourse to friendly arbitration. Negotiations are progressing for a revival of the United States and Chilean claims commission whose work was abruptly terminated last year by the expiration of the stipulated time within which awards could be made.

SPECIE PAYMENT IN CHILE.

The resumption of specie payments in Chile is a step of great interest and importance, both in its direct consequences upon her own welfare and as evincing the ascendancy of sound financial principles in all of the most influential of South American Republics.

MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.

The close of the momentous struggle between China and Japan, while relieving the diplomatic agents of this government from the delicate duty they undertake at the request of both countries of rendering such service to the subjects of either belligerent within the territorial limits of the other as our neutral position permitted, developed a domestic condition in the Chinese Empire which has caused much anxiety and called for prompt and careful attention. Either as a result of a weak control by the Central Government over the provincial administrations, following a diminution of traditional governmental authority under the stress of an overwhelming national disaster, or as a manifestation upon good opportunity of the aversion of the Chinese population to all foreign ways and undertakings there have occurred in widely separated provinces of China serious outbreaks of the old fanatical spirit against foreigners, which, unchecked by the local authorities, if not actually committed at by them, have culminated in mob attacks on foreign missionary stations, causing much destruction of property, and attended with personal

injuries as well as loss of life although but one American citizen was reported to have been actually wounded, and although the destruction of property may have fallen more heavily upon the missionaries of other nationalities than our own, it plainly behooved this government to take the most prompt and decided action to guard against similar or perhaps more dreadful calamities befalling the hundreds of American mission stations which have grown up throughout the interior of China under the temperate rule of toleration, custom, and imperial edict. The demands of the United States and other powers for the degradation and punishment of the responsible officials of the respective cities and provinces which by neglect or otherwise had permitted uprising, and for the adoption of stern measures by the Emperor's government for the protection of the life and property of foreigners, were followed by the disgrace and dismissal of certain provincial officials found derelict in duty, and the punishment by death of a number of those adjudged guilty of actual participation in the outbreaks. This government also insisted that a special American Commission should visit the province where the first disturbance occurred, for the purpose of investigation. This latter commission, formed after much opposition, has gone overland from Tientsin, accompanied by a suitable Chinese escort, and by its demonstration of the readiness and ability of our government to protect its citizens will act, it is believed, as a most influential deterrent of any similar outbreaks.

The energetic steps we have thus taken are all the more likely to result in future safety to our citizens in China, because the Imperial Government is, I am persuaded, fully convinced that we desire only the liberty and protection of our own citizens and redress for any wrongs they may have suffered, and that we have no ulterior designs or objects, political or otherwise. China will not forget our kindly service to her citizens during her late war nor the further fact that, while furnishing all the facilities at our command to further the negotiations of peace between her and Japan, we sought no advantages and interposed no counsel.

The governments of both China and Japan have, in special dispatches transmitted through their respective diplomatic representatives, expressed in a most pleasing manner their grateful appreciation of our assistance to their citizens during the unhappy struggle and of the value of our aid paving the way to their resumption of peaceful relations.

THE WALLER CASE.

The customary cordial relations between this country and France have been undisturbed, with the exception that a full explanation of the treatment of John L. Waller by the expeditionary military authorities of France still remains to be given. Mr. Waller, formerly United States Consul at Tananarive, remained in Madagascar after his term of office expired, and was apparently successful in procuring business concessions from the Hoovas of greater or less value. After the occupation of Tananarive and the declaration of martial law by the French, he was arrested upon various charges, among them that of communicating military information to the enemies of France, was tried and convicted by a military tribunal, and sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment. Following the course justified by abundant precedents, this Government requested from that of France the record of the proceedings of the French tribunal which resulted in Mr. Waller's condemnation. This request has been complied with to the extent of supplying a copy of the official record, from which appear the constitution and organization of the court, the charges as formulated, and the general course and result of the trial and by which it is shown that the accused was tried in open court and was defended by counsel. But the evidence adduced in support of the charges—which was not received by the French minister of foreign affairs till the first week in October—has thus far been withheld, the French Government taking the ground that its production in response to our demand would establish a bad precedent. The efforts of our Ambassador to procure it, however, though impeded by recent changes in the French ministry, have not been relaxed, and it is confidently expected that some satisfactory solution of the matter will

shortly be reached. Meanwhile it appears that Mr. Waller's confinement has every alleviation which the state of his health and all the other circumstances of the case demand or permit.

ARBITRATION WITH FRANCE.

In agreeable contrast to the difference above noted respecting a matter of common concern where nothing is sought except such a mutually satisfactory outcome as the true merits of the case require, is the recent resolution of the French Chamber favoring the conclusion of a permanent treaty of arbitration between the two countries.

GREAT FAIR AT PARIS.

An invitation has been extended by France to the Government and people of the United States to participate in a great International Exposition at Paris in 1900 as a suitable commemoration of the close of this, the world's marvelous century of progress. I heartily recommend its acceptance, together with such legislation as will adequately provide for a due representation of this Government and its people on the occasion.

RELATIONS WITH GERMANY.

Our relations with the States of the German Empire are, in some respects, typical of a condition of things elsewhere found in countries whose productions and trade are similar to our own. The close rivalries of competing industries; the influence of the delusive doctrine that the internal development of a nation is promoted and its wealth increased by a policy which in undertaking to reserve its home markets for the exclusive use of its own producers necessarily obstructs their sales in foreign markets and prevents free access to the products of the world; the desire to retain trade in time worn laws, regardless of the inexorable laws of new needs and changed conditions of demand and supply, and our own halting tardiness in inviting a freer exchange of commodities, and by its means imperiling our footing in the external markets, naturally open to us, have created a situation somewhat injurious to American export interests. Not only in Germany, where they are perhaps the most noticeable, but in adjacent countries, our exports affected are largely American cattle and other food products. The reason assigned for unfavorable discrimination being that their consumption is deleterious to the public health. This is all the irritating in view of the fact that no European health. This is the more irritating in and wholesomeness of its exported food supplies as the United States nor so easily able, on account of inherent soundness, to guarantee those qualities.

Nor are these difficulties confined to our food products designed for exportation. Our great insurance companies, for example, having built up a vast business abroad, and invested a large share of their gains in foreign countries in compliance with the local laws and regulations then existing, now find themselves within a narrowing circle of onerous and unforeseen conditions, and are confronted by the necessity of retirement from a field thus made unprofitable if indeed they are not summarily expelled, as some of them have lately been from Prussia.

RETALIATION SUGGESTED.

It is not to be forgotten that international trade cannot be one-sided. Its currents are alternating, and its movements should be honestly reciprocal. Without this it almost necessarily degenerates into a device to gain advantage or a contrivance to secure benefits with only the semblance of a return. In our dealings with other nations we ought to be open-handed and scrupulously fair. This should be our policy as a producing nation, and it plainly becomes us as a people who love generosity and the moral aspects of national good faith and reciprocal forbearance. These considerations should not, however, constrain us to submit to unfair discrimination nor to silently acquiesce in vexatious hindrances to the enjoyment of our share of the legitimate advantages of proper trade relations. If an examination of the situation suggests such measures on our part as involve restrictions similar to those from which we suffer, the way to such a course is easy. It should, however, by no means be lightly entered upon, since the necessity for the inauguration of such a policy would be imperilled by the best sentiment of our people, and because it naturally and logically might lead to consequences of the gravest character.

OPENING OF KIEL CANAL.

I take pleasure in calling to your attention the encomiums bestowed on those vessels of our new navy which took part in the notable ceremony of the opening of the Kiel canal. It was fitting that this extraordinary achievement of the newer German nationality should be celebrated in the presence of American exposition of the latest developments of the world's naval energy.

THE BERING SEA MATTER.

Our relations with Great Britain, always intimate and important, have demanded during the past year even a greater share of consideration than usual. Several vexatious questions were left undetermined by the decision of the Bering Sea arbitration tribunal. The application of the principles laid down by that august body has not been followed by the results they were intended to accomplish, either because their execution has been more or less imperfect. Much correspondence has been exchanged between the two governments on the subject of preventing the extermination and slaughter of seals. The insincerity of the British position of Bering Sea under the regulations agreed on by the two governments, has been pointed

DOWN TO BUSINESS

A DELUGE OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE.

FOR THE RECOGNITION OF CUBA

Mr. Lodge Introduced the First one and This Was Followed by Others From Senators Cullom, Allen, Call and Pasco--Senator Call's Resolution Will be Taken up To-Day--The Closest Attention Given to the Message--A Short Executive Session.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The Senate plunged into real business to-day. Naturally the President's message attracted the main attention of the day, but aside from this there were stirring resolutions on the Monroe Doctrine and the Cuban rebellion, and after that the usual deluge of bills and resolutions running far up into the hundreds. The message was given the closest attention from all quarters of the Chamber. At its conclusion, Mr. Lodge, of Massachusetts, offered a resolution, vigorous in terms, reaffirming the Monroe Doctrine, and presenting it in such form as to permit its enactment as a permanent law, rather than an expression of the policy advocated by President Monroe. In the same line was a resolution by Mr. Cullom, Illinois, and another by Mr. Allen, Populist, Nebraska.

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The Cuban situation received attention from both the Florida Senators, Mr. Call affirming a resolution for the recognition of the insurgents as belligerents and Mr. Pasco presenting resolutions from the city council of Tampa and St. Augustine, Florida, expressive of the feeling for recognition of the insurgents. The Call resolution will be called up to-morrow, so that Cuba and the Monroe Doctrine will receive early attention, although the purpose is to afford opportunity for an expression of views rather than for an immediate vote.

At the brief executive session the nominations of Mr. Olney as Secretary of State, and Mr. Harmon as Attorney General were confirmed, as that of Rufus W. Peckham to the Supreme Bench referred to the Judiciary committee.

SHORT SESSION IN THE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 3.—The session of the House to-day was very brief and was consumed entirely by the reading of the President's message. It was listened to with fair attention but the features of the document received no sign either of approval or disapproval from the members until the conclusion of the reading when several Democrats created a slight demonstration.

When it was finished the House immediately adjourned until Friday.

THE BILLS INTRODUCED.

Many Were Measures Which Failed to Pass Last Session.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—There were 272 bills and 16 resolutions introduced in the Senate to-day, but a large majority of the bills were reprints of measures which failed to pass last session. Many of these, as also a large proportion of the new bills, were for private purposes. There were also several for the modification of the pension laws.

Senators Peffer, Stewart and Squire introduced their bills of last session pertaining to silver coinage.

Senator Pettigrew introduced a bill to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy and re-introduced his bill of last session to prevent the extermination of the fur bearing animals of Alaska.

Senator Vest re-introduced his bill of last session to prohibit monopoly in the transportation of cattle to foreign countries and also his bill for the compulsory education of Indian children, and the settlement of private land claims.

Senator Chandler re-introduced his bill for the exclusion of alien anarchists, and also his bill for the regulation of immigration.

Senator Frye introduced a bill providing for the amendment of the tariff laws so as to admit free of duty all material used in the construction or equipment of vessels built in the United States. He also presented several other bills for the encouragement of American shipping and American ship building, and general bills to amend the laws relating to navigation, and to prevent discrimination against American sailing vessels engaged in the coastwise trade.

In the House a large number of bills and joint resolutions were introduced, many of them measures that failed during the last session. Those introduced included the following:

By Mr. Powers, of Vermont, a bill to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy.

By Mr. McCall, of Massachusetts, to amend the immigration laws.

By Mr. Wilson, of Ohio, to equalize pensions on account of service in the Mexican war.

By Mr. Mahon, of Pennsylvania, incorporating the Maritime Canal of Nicaragua, reported by Representative Millroy, from the commerce committee in the last Congress.

Mr. Chickering, of New York, to ascertain the feasibility and cost of constructing a canal from the Great Lakes to the Hudson river.

North Carolina postmasters were appointed to-day as follows: Debruhl, G. W. Debruhl, vice J. E. Wilcox removed, and Newton Grove, T. W. Underwood, vice E. A. Monk resigned.

CRISP WITH FINANCES.

His Speech Yesterday Before the Georgia Legislature.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 3.—Cold as was the weather to-night, the welcome extended to Secretary of the Interior Smith on his appearance before the General Assembly to discuss the financial question was of the warmest. Standing room only was available in the hall of the House of Representatives where both branches of the Legislature, distinguished men from various portions of the State and several hundred citizens, including many ladies were gathered, and loud and lengthy applause made frequent interruptions in his remarks. The Secretary had been invited to discuss the issues of the day. But like Speaker Crisp, who spoke before the same body two weeks ago, he confined himself to the money question, taking strong ground against the free and unlimited coinage of silver and defending the course of the administration in financial matters.

Mr. Smith was introduced by State Senator W. W. Osborne, of Savannah. He rehearsed the uses and functions of money and gave a running review of the history of currency in this country. The advocates of free coinage, he said, professed to want gold and silver treated with equality. The policy they proposed would put one hundred cents worth of one in a dollar and only fifty cents worth of the other. He was not against silver. He wanted just as many gold and silver or paper dollars circulated in this country as could be kept as good as every other dollar. He endorsed the bimetallic policy of Thomas Jefferson, he said, but he did not agree with the bimetallic fallacy "coin" Harvey. He argued elaborately to show that the free and unlimited coinage of both gold and silver at the present ratio would result in the establishment of the silver standard and the disappearance of all our gold. The tide of the population and of capital was now setting towards the Southern people, who, of all others, had occasion to dread a revolution. Free coinage would benefit no one and work vast hardships to all, especially to the cotton planters of the South, who would have to sell their products at a gold standard price and buy their goods at an inflated silver standard valuation.

The most significant part of Secretary Smith's address was his reference to State banks. The repeal of the ten per cent tax on their circulation would, he believed, be a remedy for our financial ills. He took pleasure in telling his auditors of a great number of great lawyers in the National Capital, with whom he was associated, all were agreed that the prohibitory tax was unconstitutional.

The Secretary closed by announcing his assurance that the next national convention would take advanced ground against free coinage and counselling calmness of discussion and harmony within party lines so that after the battle was over there might not be too many scars.

CRISP ON THE MESSAGE.

Doesn't Believe the Proposed Remedy Will Aid Relief.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—Commenting on the President's message, ex-Speaker Crisp said: "I heard with some surprise and great regret that part of the message relating to our finances. That relief is needed no one doubts. That it can be found in the direction indicated in the message, I don't believe. The President makes as strong an argument as can be made in favor of the single gold standard, but I don't think he fairly states the case. He announces throughout his message that our obligations are payable in gold. There is no law on the statute book justifying this assumption. All bonds, Treasury notes and other obligations of the United States are payable in coin, that is gold and silver of the present standard of weight and fineness and if the Treasury would exercise the option which the law and contract gives of paying in that metal most convenient to its difficulties would be less. I am opposed to the retirement of the greenbacks and Sherman notes because it would ruinously contract our currency.

Neither can I approve of the proposition recommended enlarging the privileges of the national banks. I have no doubt the President honestly believes he is right, and I know I as honestly believe he is wrong."

A BUSINESS BLOCK IN ASHES.

Half Million Dollars of Property Burned in Indianapolis.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 3.—A fire in the wholesale district to-day destroyed property valued at a half million dollars. Seven or eight great business establishments were burned out. The fire began in a wholesale grocery store of Schnell and Company, numbers 52 to 68 South Meridian street. At 8:30 o'clock the third floor of the building fell in and the heavy stock that was piled on it was carried to the first floor. The flames at once broke out, and from the beginning the fire spread in all directions. The employees all got out without serious injury, though some of them had narrow escapes.

At noon the fire was under control after having burned over territory extending from number 52 to 74. Seven firms were burned out. Estimated total value of stock destroyed \$372,000, which together with buildings, will reach \$500,000. There is a total of about \$300,000 insurance. The buildings were all brick and four stories in height. A number of accidents occurred. Several firemen were carried down by falling walls. Two of them it is believed will die.

FOR SUPREME BENCH

THE PRESIDENT YESTERDAY NOMINATED RUFUS W. PECKHAM.

EVERYBODY IS HIGHLY PLEASED

And No Doubt is Expressed as to His Confirmation--Even Senator Hill, Who Made Such a Bitter Campaign Against His Brother, is Satisfied--The New Judge is 58 Years Old and a Native of Albany--Was Once a Democratic Leader in That City.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The President sent to the Senate the nomination of Rufus W. Peckham, of New York, to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Also the following recess nominations: RICHARD OLNEY, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of State.

JUDSON HARMON, of Ohio, to be Attorney General.

The nomination of Judge Peckham was received simultaneously with the President's message. Senators on both sides of the chamber expressed themselves as highly pleased with the appointment, and in no instance was any doubt expressed as to his confirmation.

Senator Hill, of New York, was not present in the Senate, but he expressed himself so favorably to Judge Rufus W. Peckham when engaged in making his campaign against his brother, Wheeler H. Peckham, that it is generally supposed that his satisfaction is without cavil and even with satisfaction.

Senator Murphy, of New York, pronounced the Senate selection as equal to the very best that could be made and said there could be no doubt of speedy confirmation. When asked how he thought Senator Hill would receive it he replied that he did not believe that his colleague could or would make any opposition to confirmation. Senator Murphy also stated that it was his understanding that the nomination had been tendered without solicitation on the part of Judge Peckham's friends and that the appointment was made because of the President's personal knowledge of the Judge's fitness for the place.

The judges of the United States Supreme court were early in the day informed of the nomination and it is understood that they expressed satisfaction over the selection.

SHORT SKETCH OF HIS LIFE.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 3.—Judge Rufus W. Peckham was born in Albany in 1837. His father, Rufus W. Peckham, of Albany, was a judge of the Court of Appeals and he is a brother of Wheeler H. Peckham, of New York city. Judge Peckham is a member of the Appellate Court of the State, and before his elevation to the position in November, 1888, was active in Albany politics, being at one time the leader of the Democratic party in the city. He is a warm personal friend of President Cleveland.

WOODWARD'S LUCKY DRAW.

He Has the Best Form of Currency Issued by Sp. Clerk Randall.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 3.—(Special.)—In drawing of seats in the House the North Carolina delegation were placed near together, to the left of the main entrance. Mr. Woodward drew a very desirable seat, the one formerly occupied by the late ex-Speaker Randall.

Judge James E. Shepherd and Mr. C. M. Busbee were here again to-day before the Supreme Court to appear in the case of Baltzer and Taak, but the case was postponed until the last of January. Judge Shepherd and Mr. Busbee leave to-night for Raleigh.

Mr. W. R. Capehart, of North Carolina, a prominent candidate for Fish Commissioner, arrived here on the boat this morning. He has strong backing and his chances now for Fish Commissioner are among the best.

Mrs. J. Y. Joyner, wife of Prof. J. Y. Joyner, of Greensboro Normal school, and who has been visiting at Dr. Sanderlin's, returned to Greensboro yesterday with her two children.

Miss Alexander, of Charlotte, is here. W. J. Browning, of New Jersey, has been selected by Clerk McDowell, as chief clerk of the House to succeed Thomas O. Towles, of Missouri.

The President and Mrs. Cleveland today abandoned their autumn home at Woodley and moved into the White House for the winter as has been custom upon the beginning of the sessions of Congress.

WANTS THEM RULED OFF.

A Case Against Patchen and Gentry for Breach of Contract.

CHICAGO, Dec. 3.—The semi-annual meeting of the Board of Review of the American Trotting Association opened this morning at the Auditorium hotel and will be in session all the week and may run over into next week. There are 210 cases on the dock for hearing.

Probably the leading case before the board is that of the charge of the Lincoln Association against John R. Gentry, J. F. Taylor and Joe Patchen for violating an exhibition contract.

Much of the morning session was occupied in arguments on the Patchen-Gentry case. The object of the proceedings is not to recover damages, but an endeavor on the part of the Lincoln Association to have the two famous horses ruled off the turf.

John G. Taylor, the owner of Joe Patchen and J. F. Scott, owner of John R. Gentry, were both present and stated that it had been impossible for them to have their horses at Lincoln at the time agreed.

(CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE)