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THE 55TH CONGRESS

Formal Opening of the Senate and House.

THRONGS AT THE CAPITOL

UNIQUE FLORAL OFFERINGS TO GROSVENOR AND FORAKER.

HANNA, WOLCOTT AND DINGLEY GREETED

Marks of Respect to the Late Senator George and Deceased Members--Chaplain Milburn's

Touching Prayer--Close Attention to President's Message.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 6.--At noon to-day the first regular session of the Fifty-fifth Congress was launched upon the unknown seas of legislation.

The recess and the credentials of the members elect were read by the direction of the Speaker, who then administered the oath of office to them.

On motion of Mr. Hopkins, (Rep., Illinois), the clerk was directed to notify the Senate that the House was ready for business and on motion of Mr. Dingley, a resolution was adopted for the appointment of a committee of three to join the committee of the Senate to wait on the President and inform him that Congress was ready to receive any communication he desired to make.

The latter's credentials had not yet arrived but the oath was administered to him by unanimous consent asked by Mr. Hurley, (Rep., New York).

On motion of Mr. Henderson, of Iowa, a member of the Committee on Rules, the rule at the extra session for three day adjournments was vacated and daily sessions to begin at noon each day were ordered.

The House reconvened at 1:40, when the committee appointed to wait on the President came down the centre aisle and Mr. Dingley reported that the committee had performed its mission.

VIEWS OF MESSAGE

Senators and Members Give Their Estimates.

RECEPTION IN ENGLAND

WM. J. BRYAN SEES NO HOPE IN IT.

CRISP COMMENT OF CHAMP CLARK

The General Trend of Criticism is One of Disapproval--The Attempt to Conciliate

Spain Seems to Have Had an Opposite Effect.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 6.--Opinions on the message: Representative Grosvenor (Republican of Ohio) said: "The message is an especially able, clear and satisfactory document all the way through.

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The radical advocates of the gold standard will not be willing to accept this suggestion, nor will the silver men, so far as I am informed, favor this disposition of the financial question.

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Galveston, Tex., Dec. 6.--Wm. Jennings Bryan reached here to-day, and left with a party of friends for Lake Surprise to hunt ducks.

HAYTI IS FORCED

Little Republic is Threatened

by German Warships.

IS GIVEN EIGHT HOURS

MUST PAY THE INDEMNITY AND APOLOGIZE.

THE APOLOGY IS WHAT GOES HARD

Port au Prince, Hayti, Dec. 6.--The trouble between Germany and Hayti, as a result of the arrest and imprisonment of Herr Leuders, an alleged German subject, reached a crisis to-day.

Anticipation of trouble, the citizens of German nationality sought refuge yesterday on board two steamers which were at this port and the French steamer Ville De Marseilles has been requisitioned by the French Minister, in order to serve as a place of refuge for French citizens.

The exact nature of Germany's demands on Hayti is as yet somewhat in doubt but it is understood that the German government asks:

First--An indemnity of \$20,000 (Americans) for Herr Leuders.

Second--The promise that Herr Leuders may return to Hayti and there sojourn without danger of any kind.

Third--A letter to the German government in which Hayti will express apology for the proceedings toward the German government in the whole transaction.

Washington, Dec. 6.--Mr. Leger, the Minister of Hayti to the United States, when asked today concerning the Frankfurt Zeitung's statement that Hayti has agreed to pay the indemnity asked in the case of Leuders, said that he had received no advices of any charge in the position taken by his government, namely, that it stood ready to pay cheerfully any proper indemnity provided it had the opportunity to demonstrate whether this indemnity was properly collectible.

SENSITIVE TO THE CURRENCY

Democratic Senators were generally averse to expressing any opinion upon the message.

Senator Ronch was an exception to the rule in this class.

He called special attention to the President's declaration that the government is pledged to maintain gold redemption.

"This," he said, "is a mere assumption."

Views by Republican Senators were expressed as follows:

Senator Allison: "I do not take the despairing view concerning our currency which the President presents. While there are some improvements which I should like to see made, I think we shall be able to get along if we do not pass any currency legislation, and as the situation presents itself now, it looks as if it might be impracticable to secure legislation on the lines of the President's recommendation.

The recommendations in regard to Cuba are humane and considerate."

Senator Hale: "The recommendation regard to Cuba is in all respects admirable and one with which I am much pleased.

Senator Foraker: "As a whole the message is an able document, but I do not agree with the president's conclusions on the subject of international law as applied to Cuba."

Senator Teller, (Silver Republican): "I don't believe that any legislation will be enacted authorizing the retention of the greenbacks in the treasury until somebody is willing to pay gold for them."

Senator Cannon, Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations: "I am much gratified with that feature of the President's message in which he says: 'It is a commanding duty to keep the appropriations within the revenues of the government and thus avoid a deficiency.'"

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SERIOUS TROUBLE FEARED

Kingston, Jamaica, December 6.--Advices received here today from Port au Prince show that serious trouble is imminent in Hayti.

The streets of the capital are placarded with "down with the government," and the troops have been ordered into the barracks.

M'KINLEY RETURNS TO CANTON.

Expected the Train to Arrive There This Morning at 10 O'clock.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 6.--President McKinley left Washington at 7:20 to-night to return for the bedside of his mother at Canton.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 6.--There was an agreeable surprise to the children and friends gathered about the bedside of Mrs. Nancy Allison McKinley this afternoon. She regained consciousness sufficiently to recognize not only her children, but to extend greetings to them, to her aged sister, Mrs. Osborne, Charles Miller and others who were near. She was able to take a little nourishment about noon.

At 10:30 o'clock tonight Mrs. McKinley is exceedingly low. She has just experienced one of the sinking spells during which life seemed to be almost extinct. There are moments when she does not seem to breathe. If she rallies from this spell she will probably survive the night, but just now it seems doubtful that she will rally.

THE SEABOARD DECISION.

Judge Simonton Gives President Hoffmann Leave to Answer Over.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 6.--The opinion of Judge Simonton in the case of Mr. Thomas F. Ryan against the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad Company and others, was handed down to-day in the United States Circuit court. It involves original certificate 754 for 153 shares of stock of the company.

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Washington, D. C., December 6.--The senate committee on rules today instructed the sergeant-at-arms of the senate, to enforce the rules of the senate prohibiting the sale of liquor in the senate wing of the capitol. There was no liquor on sale in the senate restaurant during the day.

CAPE LOOKOUT HARBOR.

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