

THE COMMERCIAL CONGRESS.

Resolutions Passed Favoring the Nicaragua Canal.

MASTERS DEBATE ON THE SILVER QUESTION.

John P. Irish of California Speaks in Opposition to Free Coinage, While Senator Stewart of Nevada Upholds the Proposition—A Resolution Adopted Asking the Directors of the Columbian Exposition to Set Aside a Day to be Known as Silver Day.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

OGDEN (Utah), April 26.—The Trans-Atlantic Congress to-day debated on the Nicaragua Canal, and passed favorable resolutions. C. W. Cross of California opposed the canal. Messrs. Briggs, Irish and Cannon of California favored the canal. Roberts of Sacramento favored it. Weinstein was undecided, and confessed that his judgment had not been formed.

Dixon of California, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Rivers, got the California river resolutions reported favorably to the congress.

One-third of the day was devoted to the silver debate.

To-night an immense audience heard a silver debate between John P. Irish of California opposing free coinage, and Senator Stewart of Nevada in favor of it. It was a splendid battle. Irish spoke to an audience, two-thirds of which was convinced in advance against him, but he heard the lion in his den, and took up the coinage advocates' points by one, and fearlessly played them, defying any opponent of free coinage to show why there should be a limitation on coinage, if, as the prophets say, foreign bullion will not come in, though unlimited coinage invites it; also, why fix a ratio of sixteen to one; why by law declare sixteen ounces of silver shall buy one ounce of gold. No man had shown, or could show, why the Western man should pay the Eastern man only sixty cents for a dollar's worth of goods, or get one dollar for sixty cents' worth of coin. He denied and defied proof to the contrary, that the rise or fall of products has been or can be foretold by the rise or fall of coin bullion. He defended President Cleveland, whose policy had been assailed by a dozen speakers, and declared that the President would do his duty, as he had done, and that his acts would be ratified by the people, as his every act had been.

Senator Stewart's reply was a fine effort, and along the line of the conventional free coinage argument. He probably never made a better effort. Both he and Irish were loudly applauded. It was a notable debate, that will be historic.

To-morrow is transportation and irrigation business day.

There are now here six Governors, two Senators and six Congressmen.

The Trans-Atlantic Congress began its morning session by passing a resolution calling on the railways to place rates to the World's Fair at such a figure as will enable the masses in the West to attend.

The Nicaragua Canal was then taken up.

Leet of Colorado opposed the construction of the canal in the United States, because it would only be contributing to the prosperity of Great Britain.

John P. Irish of California argued that the general prosperity of the world would be so enhanced by the building of the canal that every part of this country would share in it.

Governor Waite wanted the canal, if built at all, to be absolutely owned and controlled by the country in the interest of the people of this nation.

Heyburn of Idaho spoke for his State in favor of the canal.

C. W. Cross of California opposed the canal. "While millions were asked for internal water-way improvements," he said, "which could not be granted, it was folly to build an artificial water-way. There was no certainty that the profits would pay the operating expenses. How would it be protected from the ravages of the world? How would our country be enriched by turning the commerce now passing across our country into a channel 2,000 miles south of us?"

J. W. Feighan of Washington and J. H. Roberts of Sacramento favored the canal.

W. H. Harvey of Utah claimed that Governmental aid without Government control would again repeat the history of the Pacific railroads.

Holmes of Oregon was surprised to find that part of the State of California was in favor of the canal, but that the Southern Pacific was dead set against it.

Arthur R. Briggs, Secretary of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, told the story of De Lesseps' visit to San Francisco in the interest of the Panama Canal. De Lesseps was forced to admit that the people of California were better informed regarding the isthmus than he was. He admitted to the Chamber of Commerce committee that he had made no personal survey of the canal and was not able to give any intelligent explanation as to the methods of overcoming the natural obstacles on the isthmus.

O. W. Crawford of Texas claimed that the profit on the cotton that could be sold to China and Japan alone would pay the interest on the bonds.

Congressman-elect Cannon of Los Angeles, Populist, said that he opposed Governmental aid unless the original promoters were either bought out or frozen out. If the canal is controlled by a monopoly, it will combine with the railroads just as the Pacific Mail has done.

A recess was then taken.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

On the reassembling of the congress Governor Prince of New Mexico introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That this congress ask the directors of the Columbian Exposition to set apart a day in the month of September next to be known as silver day, when addresses on the silver question can be delivered and the day otherwise celebrated in an appropriate manner.

THE YELLOW METAL.

An Improved Situation at the Treasury Department.

OFFERS OF GOLD DAILY RECEIVED AND ACCEPTED.

The President and Secretary Carlisle Show Their Confidence in the Financial Situation by Their Action in Leaving Washington to Attend the Naval Review and the Opening of the World's Fair—Much Anxious Talk Indulged In on Wall Street.

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WASHINGTON, April 26.—The President to-day designated Assistant Secretary Hamlin to act as Secretary of the Treasury in the absence of Secretary Carlisle, who leaves this afternoon with the President and other members of the Cabinet for New York, to be absent one week. Hamlin had a conference with Carlisle this morning, and was made acquainted with the general policy of the Treasury Department, especially as regards the gold question.

The situation to-day shows an improvement. Gold in small quantities was offered this morning from several points and accepted. The policy of the Treasury will be to accept all the gold offered, unless the conditions imposed are disadvantageous to the Government.

The President and Secretary Carlisle show by their action in leaving the Capital at this time, plain that words can make it, their entire confidence in the financial situation.

Gold will be paid out as demanded for Treasury notes, without inquiring whether the gold reserve is thereby invaded or kept intact. It has been practically been turned into available Treasury cash since the President's announcement that gold would be paid for all Treasury notes.

Carlisle said this morning there was nothing new to say of the situation, except that he was daily receiving offers of gold, which he is accepting.

WALL STREET ANXIOUS.

NEW YORK, April 26.—There is much anxious talk on Wall street to-day over the uncertainty in the financial situation. The absence of definite knowledge as to the intentions of the Government among people who ought to be well informed, and usually are, is regarded as remarkable. Even strong sympathizers with the Administration express surprise at the seeming lack of interest of officials in Washington concerning the business affairs of the country. One gentleman, said to be in a position to speak with considerable authority, is quoted by the Wall-street news agencies as saying:

"The fact is the men who control the gold do not have confidence in the ability of the present Government officials to master the situation. The advisers of those at the head of the Government are not all to the liking of these capitalists. They consider them unsafe and therefore do not want to risk their gold out of their control. The fact that so far the Administration is in trying circumstances shows there is no financial policy at all beyond the declarations of a mere desire to do this and that, which simply adds to the uncertainty and makes the business man very apprehensive as to the future."

CARLISLE TO SEE THE BANKERS.

NEW YORK, April 26.—Sub-Treasurer Jordan received word to-day that Secretary Carlisle will confer with the local bankers this evening.

No gold was taken from the Sub-Treasury to-night.

There is no change in the situation.

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Applications for Places Continue to Arrive at Washington.

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Thomas Deck is still here, but says he has given up his candidacy for office since he failed to be appointed Collector of Customs. He complains that the President did not examine the papers of candidates for this position as the following:

The President announces the following appointments: Government Directors of the Union Pacific—Henry F. Dinock, New York; Don N. Dickinson, Michigan; J. W. Doane, Illinois; Fitzhugh Lee, Virginia; James W. Haddock, Nebraska; David G. Brown, Collector of Customs for the District of Montana and Idaho.

PENSION BUREAU.

The Rolls to Be Purged of Fraudulent Cases.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—Acting Commissioner of Pensions D. I. Murphy has transferred about fifty clerks who heretofore were employed "on statistical work," but which, as far as he can see, are of no value to the office, to current work, in order to facilitate the bringing up of business to date. Murphy is decidedly of the opinion that among the 955,000 pensioners on the rolls of the bureau there are many fraudulent cases, and with a view to purging the lists of such as can be reached, he has issued an order to the special examiners in the field directing them to use all diligence in searching out such cases as require the attention of the bureau.

The President Departs for New York.

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WASHINGTON, April 26.—The internal dissension in the Choctaw Nation is in a fair way to a peaceful settlement. Indian

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The unveiling was preceded by a procession of Swedish societies. Next came the great pageant of warships moving up in two columns from the Lower Bay to their anchorage in the Hudson River, opposite Upper and Manhattan Islands.

The vessels which arrived at Gravesend Bay last night swung at anchors in the beautiful sunlight, and not long after passed the high banks along the Hudson, the bluffs at the foot, both on Staten Island and Fort Hamilton, were thronged with people, and the roads filled with spectators hurrying toward the shore to find a good point of view.

The fleet made too imposing a sight for the spectators to cut any figure at all. By all odds the American line made the finest showing. The fleet anchored in quick succession, the powerful Blake, with Vice-Admiral Sir John O. Hopkins' pennant standing out in the stiff wind, being about five hundred yards below Fort Lafayette, and the Philadelphia, with Rear-Admiral Gherard's blue flag, with two white stars, at the main, the same distance below Fort Tompkins.

Strung behind each leader were the ships which were to follow up the bay, and all in readiness for the start. As the Dimitri Donskoi had not been in port at Hampton Roads it was necessary for the other Admirals to pay their respects, and at half-past 8 o'clock Sir John Hopkins put off from the Blake and was saluted by fifteen guns from the Russian as he stepped on the quarter deck, the British flag at the same time being hoisted.

Some of the admirals followed in due course. A minute or two afterward all attention was directed to black specks up the river, and with two streaks of foam diverging from the bows and a wide wake of white water astern, the diabolical Cushing rushed by at express-train speed. She reached the Philadelphia in a short time, wheeled around as if she was on a pivot and ran up alongside the flagship with dispatches to Admiral Gherard.

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