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THE CANAL INVESTIGATION A BILL FOR A COMMISSION TO BE NAMED BY THE GOVERNOR.

THE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS WILL SUBMIT IT TO-DAY—NO CONFIRMATION BY THE SENATE REQUIRED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Albany, Jan. 19.—The Assembly Committee on Ways and Means this afternoon decided to submit to the Assembly to-morrow a bill authorizing Governor Black to appoint a commission of seven eminent citizens to investigate the recent expenditure of several millions of dollars in enlarging three of the State's canals, and with instructions also to learn the precise cost of completing the enlargement of the canals thus begun. The commission is instructed to learn whether a trifling error of \$7,000,000 has been made in the canal estimates, or whether the "mistake" amounts to \$10,000,000. Further, it will be its duty to ascertain if the \$6,000,000 of work already done has been executed in a thorough manner and if there has been any extravagance in the management of the work.

GOOD ADVICE REJECTED. The adoption by the Republican majority of the committee of the Canal Commission plan shows that Governor Black and Charles W. Hackett, the chairman of the Republican State Committee, who was here to-day, have decided not to take the advice of Assemblyman Weeks, Independent Republican, of New-York. It will be remembered that Mr. Weeks said to Mr. Black on Monday: "It seems to me, Governor, that it will be politically dangerous for you to name this Canal Investigating Commission, since you appointed George W. Aldridge, the Superintendent of Public Works, whose canal work will be under review. The Democratic newspapers and politicians will at once charge you, no matter how good a Canal Commission you may appoint, with having selected a jury to acquit your own administration. Mr. Aldridge is a member of your cabinet; he is your right arm in managing the State's canals. He has had charge of all the canal work under this \$6,000,000 expenditure. Your administration, therefore, is on trial and you cannot afford to face a charge of naming the men who are to examine into the character of that administration."

THE GOVERNOR'S EMBARRASSMENT. Governor Black acknowledged to Mr. Weeks that he felt much embarrassed by the circumstance that Mr. Aldridge was his appointee, and that, therefore, he would consider the subject with great care before coming to a decision upon it. Apparently he has decided to reject Mr. Weeks' advice and face any charge from the Democratic party of having packed the jury to try the canal, for the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means would hardly have acted as it did this afternoon without first obtaining his consent. Assemblyman Weeks' resolution for a legislative canal investigation is tied up in the Committee on Ways and Means.

PRECEDENT OVERTURNED. The Canal Commission bill contains several matters of great interest. One is that Governor Black alone is to name the seven members of the Commission. There is to be no confirmation by the Senate of his appointments. This is contrary to most precedents. The Senate usually has the right of confirming or rejecting such important appointments of the Governor. He presumes to assume the entire responsibility for the appointment of the Commission. The Democratic leaders to-night say that they will make the point when the bill comes up for consideration in the Legislature, that Mr. Black having appointed George W. Aldridge as Superintendent of Public Works, it is highly improper for him to appoint the members of the Canal Commission which is to consider the quality of Mr. Aldridge's superintendence of the canal-enlargement work.

When Mr. Nixon was asked to-night why the Senate was deprived of its confirmatory prerogative he replied: "Because confirmation by the Senate would smack of politics. If Mr. Black alone makes the appointments, no one can charge that the members of the Commission have been selected with a political motive."

Thomas F. Donnelly, the Democratic leader in the Assembly, who is a member of the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, at his meeting opposed giving Governor Black the right to name the Commission, on the ground that he appointed Mr. Aldridge. He said that \$5,000,000 had been expended by Aldridge on the canal improvement, and it was manifestly wrong to have his accounts analyzed and reported upon by a commission also appointed by the same Governor, who, of course, would be anxious to have his administration vindicated. Mr. Donnelly said that the members of the investigation of the canal accounts be composed of three Senators and four Assemblymen. This motion was supported by Mr. Oliver, another Democratic member. When the vote was taken the motion of Mr. Donnelly was defeated by a vote of 19 to 2. Mr. Kelly, Democrat, of Albany, voted with the Republicans against the motion, and it is believed that the members of the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, who are the authors of the bill that it provides that the Canal Commission's report shall be submitted to the Governor by July 1, but apparently is not to be printed then, but is to be submitted to the Senate of the State on or before June 1, 1898. The Governor shall transmit such report to the Legislature at the opening of the next session. The Commissioners shall examine and report concerning:

First—The work already done in connection with the deepening of the Erie, Champlain and Oswego canals, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 79 of the Laws of 1895. Second—The contracts made for such improvement, and whether such contracts were properly made. Third—The amount of money actually expended, and whether such expenditures were proper. Fourth—The proportion of the improvement included in contracts already made. Fifth—The portions of either canal not included in any contract. Sixth—The amount which will be required to complete the improvement of such canals in accordance with the plans and specifications of the Superintendent of Public Works, or the State Engineer and Surveyor. Seventh—Such other matters as are, in the judgment of the Commissioners, of public interest in connection with the proposed improvement.

TO INCREASE GERMAN LLOYDS SUBSIDY. Berlin, Jan. 19.—A bill approved by the Bundesrat will go to the Reichstag to-morrow, increasing the North German Lloyd Steamship Company's subsidy by 1,500,000 marks for fifteen years, on condition of a fortnightly service to China and an acceleration of speed to certain ports.

FINE SUSPENDED AT HIS OWN REQUEST. Berlin, Jan. 19.—Herr Fink, a member of the Reichstag, has been suspended, at his own request, from the editorship of the "Berlin Post" and from membership of the Committee of Free Conservatives, until a judicial inquiry has cleared him of the charges made in the Reichstag by Herr Behr, the Social-Democratic leader, of passing an alleged forged check while a member of the Chicago Press Club.

FIFTY BODIES RECOVERED. St. Petersburg, Jan. 19.—A dispatch from Charlott says that the bodies of fifty victims of the gas explosion in one of the mines of the Donetzsk Company, in the Taganrog district, have been extracted.

A NEW GERMAN MINISTER AT HAVEL. Berlin, Jan. 19.—Dr. Michahelles, Chairman of the Foreign Office, has been appointed German Minister at Port-au-Prince, Haiti, as successor to Count Von Lobkowitz, who is temporarily placed on the retired list.

MORE DISTURBANCES IN PARIS

THE POLICE PRECAUTIONS RENEWED, AND THE BRIDGES GUARDED. A THOUSAND STUDENTS GATHER IN FRONT OF THE PANTHEON, BUT ARE DISPERSED BY THE POLICE.

Paris, Jan. 19.—There were renewed police precautions to-day to prevent disturbances. The bridges from the Latin Quarter were guarded by police, and the residences of MM. Mathieu Dreyfus and Emile Zola were patrolled. A small mob of students assembled outside the Law School, with the usual cries, but the police prevented a serious demonstration. A band of two hundred students penetrated to the Boulevard des Capucines, with the intention of making a demonstration before the Military Club, but they were dispersed.

A NEW STORY OF THE DREYFUS CASE. A LIST OF PERSONS CONNECTED WITH THE GERMAN INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT SAID TO HAVE BEEN OBTAINED BY A WOMAN.

London, Jan. 19.—With every show of authority, "The Pall Mall Gazette" this afternoon prints prominently an article giving the inwardness of the Dreyfus case, and explains that the document, in addition to the bordereau (note) on which the Government found the prisoner guilty, was obtained in the following manner from the German Military Attaché, Von Funcke. "Nine or ten months before the arrest of Dreyfus Von Funcke was suddenly removed from his post. The explanation of his removal is of the highest importance, and throws a curious light on the Dreyfus case, explaining in some measure the attitude of the Government. I have the facts on indisputable authority that when his predecessor, Baron Von Huene, left Paris, he handed Von Funcke a list of the persons in France who were in relation with the German Intelligence Department, including him never to let it out of his own hands. Von Funcke carried the document in a leather bag around his neck. Shortly after entering upon his duties, an incident occurred whereby a woman of ill-repute obtained the document and took it to the Foreign Office, where it was hastily photographed and returned to her, she returning it to Von Funcke, who, like an honest soldier and attaché, hastened to inform the German Government of his mishap, hence his removal. Von Funcke, however, the woman refused compensation, though a large sum was offered her, but she caused amusement at the Foreign Office by marking the names which she had taken from the list (the Fatherland). "With the photograph of the document the French minister went determined to work, and I am assured on authority that it leaves no room for doubt that the name of Dreyfus appears on it; but, in France, suspicion did not immediately fall on the condemned officer. Later, it served as confirmatory evidence. There have been no further demonstrations up to midnight. The city is tranquil. A slight anti-Jewish manifestation took place at Nantes and Rouen, where there were several arrests."

ZOLA'S DEFENCE SAID TO BE READY. Paris, Jan. 19.—It is said that Emile Zola has already prepared his defence and that he will call two hundred and fifty witnesses, including handwriting experts, when he is tried for publicly accusing a number of French officials of perjury in connection with the Dreyfus proceedings.

THE ANCONA BREAD RIOTS.

FURTHER DISORDERS IN THE PROVINCE, WHICH ARE SUPPRESSED BY THE TROOPS. Rome, Jan. 19.—There were renewed disorders to-day in the poor quarter of Ancona (capital of the province of that name, in the Marche), which is inhabited by Anarchists and Socialists. A number of men gathered in the streets, and a barricade was built, but the police cleared the thoroughfares and arrested several persons. Troops are scouring the country, arresting suspicious bands of tramps. The agitation against the price of bread is spreading to other towns. A crowd assembled in front of the Town Hall at Sinigaglia sixteen miles northwest of Ancona and demanded relief. The Mayor gave a conciliatory answer, but the mob, who consisted chiefly of women, invaded the railway depot and the warehouses of Prince Ruspoli, where they seized a quantity of grain, which they had to be restored.

There has been another slight disturbance at Macerata (about twenty miles south of Ancona).

NO NEED FOR ENGLISH GRANARIES.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER SAYS CANADA SHOULD PAY HER SHARE IN MAINTAINING THE ARMY AND NAVY. London, Jan. 19.—Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking at Bristol this evening, ridiculed the notion of providing granaries, as had been suggested in some quarters. He said he was convinced the British Navy was strong enough to hold its own, and in any war England would have many friends ready to supply corn.

Referring to the coming budget estimates, he said these would show that the Government was fully alive to keeping up the standard of living in Canada, and he declared it was not creditable to Canada or fair to English taxpayers that such a colony should practically contribute nothing to the naval defenses of the empire. He hoped Canada would soon turn her attention to this matter, adding that he was convinced that if she did not the day would come when she would have "a rude awakening, which would be entirely her own fault."

In concluding his speech, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said that China had sponsored England for assistance to pay the Japanese indemnity, and that the negotiations were still pending. The newspaper statement of the subject he characterized as inaccurate and incomplete. The Government was not ashamed of these negotiations and believed the country would approve them. He said he saw no reason why English Powers should object, but if the negotiations failed Great Britain would take her stand on existing treaty rights.

DISASTERS TO BRITISH STEAMERS.

Belfast, Jan. 19.—The British steamer Herbert, sailing from Leth, England, has foundered on the County Down coast, about six miles from Gunn Island. The captain was saved, but it is believed that the other members of the crew, numbering seven, are lost.

Pekin, Jan. 19.—The British steamer Fernfeld, from Yokohama for New-York, which was reported to have been wrecked on the coast of the island of Hainan, has been found safe. She is reported to have been damaged by a steamship, and is otherwise slightly damaged. It will take five days to make repairs. A fireman was killed in the accident.

TO INCREASE GERMAN LLOYDS SUBSIDY. Berlin, Jan. 19.—A bill approved by the Bundesrat will go to the Reichstag to-morrow, increasing the North German Lloyd Steamship Company's subsidy by 1,500,000 marks for fifteen years, on condition of a fortnightly service to China and an acceleration of speed to certain ports.

BRITAIN'S POLICY IN THE EAST.

IF HER TERMS ARE ACCEPTED A FINE TRADE ROUTE WILL BE OPENED INTO THE HEART OF CHINA. Peking, Jan. 18 (Delayed in transmission).—The Tsungli-Yamen has had another conference on the subject of the loan, which is still unsettled. Besides the right to extend the entrance to the Railroad through Yunnan (the most southwestern province of China), Great Britain asks the right to build railroads through the Province of Szechuan (north of Yunnan), and a third treaty port is demanded, the identity of which, no doubt, is Siank-Yin, south of Tung-Ting Lake, in the Province of Hu-Nan, which Japan proposed to open at the time of the Simonoski negotiations.

This lake is an inland sheet of water which is reached by the Yangtze-Kiang River. It is situated about five hundred miles up the Yangtze-Kiang River and is about four hundred miles from the coast. It will thus be seen that if Great Britain succeeds in prevailing upon China to open the port of Siank-Yin, she will have opened up a fine trade route into the very heart of China, and into its most anti-foreign province. Further, if Great Britain persists in her policy that the Yangtze-Kiang provinces be not handed over to a foreign power, and establishes herself on the island of Chefoo, she commands the entrance to the Yangtze-Kiang River and will have permanently opened to trade the best portion of the Chinese Empire.

The proposed opening of the port of Taiten-Wan (on the Liao-Tung Peninsula and north of Port Arthur, a position which would command the railroad connecting Port Arthur with the north and Manchuria) continues to be the chief difficulty. Russia desires to keep the whole of the region for herself. Neither Power is willing to yield on this point, and the question is no longer a commercial one. It has become political.

ENGLISH WAR VESSELS AT KIAO-CHAU. London, Jan. 19.—The British Admiralty has just issued a list of the whereabouts of the warships of Great Britain in the far East. It shows that the first-class twin-screw armored cruiser Undaunted of 5,600 tons, 8,500 horse-power and 18-inch guns, and the twin-screw sloop Alert of 2,000 tons, 3,000 horse-power and six guns, are at Kiao-Chau Bay.

BRITISH BATTLE-SHIP AT NAGASAKI. Yokohama, Jan. 19.—The British battle-ship Centurion, flagship of the British squadron in Chinese waters, has arrived at Nagasaki. The German Government reproaches Russia, Germany and France with following a selfish policy in the far East, and adds: "Japan will avoid alliance, but she is prepared to act vigorously if necessary for the maintenance of peace."

ENGLAND MAY TAKE ACTION. THE POSITION ON THE ARMENIAN QUESTION BECOMING INTOLERABLE, SAYS MR. CHAMBERLAIN. London, Jan. 19.—The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of the Colonies, denouncing the Government policy at Liverpool this evening against the attacks of the Liberals, and referring especially to the Armenian and Cretan questions, said: "The impotence of the European concert is a disaster to all the Powers. The position is becoming intolerable, and cannot be allowed to continue indefinitely. Though there would be no room for doubt that the Government would take any step which would be necessary to restore our right and independence to take hold of the situation, I am sure that the Government will comment editorially to-morrow upon Mr. Chamberlain's statement, characterizing it as most important and significant."

ALARMING REPORTS OF MR. GLADSTONE. HIS DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AND AN INFORMANT FRIEND SAY THAT THEY HAVE INFORMATION TO JUSTIFY THE REPORTS. London, Jan. 19.—"The Pall Mall Gazette" this afternoon made the announcement that the health of Mr. Gladstone causes the gravest anxiety to those about him, and its news placards read, "Critical Condition of Mr. Gladstone." "The West-End Gazette" makes further startling reports, but adds that in a man of his age, it is a reason for some anxiety.

Mr. Henry Gladstone, daughter-in-law of Mr. Gladstone, and George Armstrong, an intimate friend of the family, said this afternoon regarding the state of Mr. Gladstone's health that there was nothing in the latest information they had received to justify the alarmist reports. Mr. Gladstone is suffering from a return of his neuritis, but a letter received this morning said that he was better and that his physicians were satisfied with his progress toward recovery.

The publication of "The Pall Mall Gazette" report to-day, concerning the health of Mr. Gladstone, is a most unfortunate one. Mr. Gladstone is suffering from a return of his neuritis, but a letter received this morning said that he was better and that his physicians were satisfied with his progress toward recovery.

PREPARATIONS MADE TO RECEIVE HIM WITH DUE HONOR IN CHICAGO. San Francisco, Jan. 19.—President Dole of Hawaii is preparing to receive him at Honolulu on his return to Washington. At 10 o'clock this morning he left the Clay-st. wharf for the Presidio on board the Government steamer McDowell, accompanied by General Shafter and staff. On his arrival at the reservation the President was received with full military honors, including a review of the Hawaiian troops of the city. President Dole stationed there. After the review, the President returned to the hotel, where Mayor Phelan and a delegation of prominent citizens awaited him. He was escorted to the Pacific Union Club, where he was entertained at breakfast. Covers were laid for twenty-eight.

The afternoon was devoted to making the final preparations for departure. The Hawaiian flag was hoisted on his arrival at 4 o'clock this evening, and his party left here at 10 o'clock this morning for Honolulu, where he will be received by Mayor Phelan and a delegation of prominent citizens. He will stay in Chicago for two weeks from this date.

CHICAGO, Jan. 19.—Arrangements are being rapidly completed for the reception and entertainment of President Dole, commander of the troops at Fort Sheridan, who will be received at Chicago on his return to Washington. A guard of honor, with a complement of staff officers, will also be detailed to wait on Mr. Dole when he resumes his journey to Washington.

Mayor Harrison said to-day that he would honor the President with a banquet at the Hawaiian Hotel. He said that the City Council will not take any official action in connection with the visit, but that he would name a committee of prominent citizens, who, with the Mayor, represent the city.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Major Heintzelman, the Army Surgeon-General, and Lieutenant-Commander Phelps, who has definitely accepted the nomination to represent the Navy, were in the city this morning. They will start for Chicago. It is probable that Mr. Hatch, Mr. Culler's ally in Chicago to meet President Dole, will be taken in charge in Chicago by Mr. Culler, and it is expected that he will be quartered at the Adams Hotel. His trip will depend entirely on his own wishes.

FUNERAL OF LOGAN CARLISLE. Cincinnati, Jan. 19.—The funeral of Logan Carlisle, ex-Secretary of the Treasury, will take place to-day in Covington, Ky. The house was filled with friends of the deceased man, and many floral tributes were placed about the casket. The burial took place in Linden Grove Cemetery.

LEAD TO LET DR. HALL GO.

HIS CONGREGATION ASKS HIM TO RECONSIDER. A LARGELY ATTENDED MEETING IN THE FIFTH AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH DECLINES TO ACCEPT HIS RESIGNATION, AND A COMMITTEE WILL WAIT ON HIM AND ASK HIM TO REMAIN AS PASTOR.

The decision of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church refused last night to accept the resignation of the Rev. Dr. John Hall as pastor of the church. Fully six hundred members were at the meeting, which was held in the church, and resolutions were unanimously passed, amid the enthusiastic clapping of hands, emphatically declining to accept the resignation, declining to appoint commissioners for the purpose of uniting with the pastor in seeking a dissolution of the pastoral relations by the Presbytery, and urgently requesting Dr. Hall to withdraw all action looking toward such resignation. Considerably more than half of the people present were women, and how deeply they were interested in the result of the proceedings was apparent in the deep and even anxious attention with which they followed the developments of the meeting.

It was known that nearly a thousand members of the congregation, out of a total active membership of about one thousand two hundred, had signed a petition for Dr. Hall to withdraw his resignation, but by many it was expected that he might lay a communication before the meeting persisting in his desire to retire. Dr. Hall did write a letter, but it merely stated that he agreed with the resolutions of the session, and pleaded for harmony and continued usefulness in the church.

The opinion of several leading members of the church who were seen after the meeting by a Tribune reporter was unanimous that Dr. Hall would probably defer to the wishes of his congregation and consent to continue at least two more years in the pastorate, and complete thereby a half-century's service in the Presbyterian Church, thirty years of which have been spent in the Fifth-ave. church.

DR. DUFFIELD PRESIDES. The Rev. Dr. Howard Duffield, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, was chosen as moderator, and S. B. Brownell as clerk of the meeting. Dr. Duffield opened the session by briefly remarking that his duty would be to guide the congregation in following the legal procedure of the Presbytery. He followed his preliminary words with prayer and a reading from the Scriptures. The Rev. Dr. John Hall then read the following letter of resignation, and the resolutions adopted by the session on January 6 upon the receipt of the resignation. Then, after reading the following resolution adopted by the session on Monday last:

Resolved, That the Session recommend to the congregation that in accordance with the pastor's resignation, and the great desirability of continuing the church, the following resolutions be passed: Resolved, That this church unite with the Rev. Dr. John Hall in his application to the Presbytery for the dissolution of the pastoral relations, and appoint commissioners to represent this church in the Presbytery, to be named by the Session, to execute an agreement to that effect on June 15, 1898, and not earlier.

The Rev. Dr. John Hall was appointed pastor emeritus of this church from and after June 15, 1898, and that an annual salary of \$1,000 be paid to him during the continuance of such relations. Resolved, That the commissioners above named be authorized to execute an agreement to that effect on behalf of this church and congregation.

Before any action was taken upon the session's recommendation Dr. Duffield explained that he had received a letter from Dr. Hall, who was not present at the meeting, which he read, as follows: Wednesday evening. The Rev. Dr. Duffield. Let me ask you as presiding officer at the meeting this evening to inform the congregation that I have agreed to the resolutions of our pastor, that my resignation will not take effect until next June. My earnest prayer is that God in his goodness will direct to such steps as are necessary to effect the withdrawal of my resignation from the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. Yours fraternally, JOHN HALL.

A momentary expectant pause followed the reading of Dr. Hall's letter. Waiting for a few moments, he then proceeded to read the following resolutions of the Session's recommendations, Howard Dayton Wilds, ex-Deputy Commissioner of Public Works, at length rose and began:

"Every action of our church which has caused so widespread surprise and regret as the announcement of the intended resignation of Dr. Hall, we cannot willingly part with him." INTERRUPTED WITH APPLAUSE. For a full moment Mr. Wilds was compelled to pause because of the applause which, beginning with a subdued murmur of assent, broke out in every part of the church in response to the assertion that Dr. Hall could not be parted with. Continuing Mr. Wilds said:

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TENSION IN HAVANA RELAXED.

BLANCO CONFIDENT THAT TROUBLE IS OVER—VOLUNTEERS PROTEST THEIR LOYALTY. Havana (via Key West, Fla.), Jan. 19 (Special).—Havana is quiet. Tension has been relaxed since Monday morning. Sunday night passed without the threatened uprising of the volunteers. One thousand additional cavalry and two thousand troops were brought in on Sunday, making eight thousand troops in all. Those whose stations are near Havana have been sent back, but a large number of regular troops are still in the city.

Officers of the volunteers called on General Blanco on Monday night in a body to deny that the organization had taken part in the riots, as well as the current rumors of disloyalty, and offered their support in maintaining order and helping to tranquillize the country. The Captain-General, replying, said he had never doubted the adhesion of the volunteers to the institutions and representatives of the constituted authorities. The incident causes comment, in that it should be necessary for the volunteers to protest their loyalty.

As was expected when the news of what had happened in Havana spread, the effect on the country was bad. No open revolt has yet occurred, but in Cardenas there has been a riotous demonstration against autonomy, and the soldiers were called out. In Cienfuegos the tension is great, but no hostile movement has been made. In Santa Clara the attempt on Sunday of a drunken employe of the military hospital to shoot Marcus Garcia, the autonomist Governor of the Province, is said to have been more than a drunken man's whim. Enrique Picon, who made the attempt, was sober at the time. The intransigent Spaniards in Santa Clara are very bitter against Garcia and against autonomy. Picon is declared to have been the instrument of a conspiracy.

General Blanco and the autonomist Cabinet insist that, in spite of these evidences of discontent, the worst is over, and that the entire island will, in a few days, be tranquil. The Sagasta Ministry does not seem fully satisfied. The direction of the Secretary of the Colonies, a dispatch is published, quoting telegrams from New York to Madrid that the disturbances have given a bad impression in the United States of the prospects of autonomy. General Blanco and the autonomist Government is implied.

Consul-General Lee is informing the State Department of the sentiment among Spanish property-owners who want American intervention. It is an expression of sentiment, rather than a definite movement. General Lee reiterates his belief that the present course does not call for warships. Minister De Loma's advice from Washington are understood to be reassuring of the present Government's policy.

The authorities continue to show a lack of discretion in many things. Rigorous censorship is applied to the press, particularly in guarding against criticisms of the army. Sharp expressions from the members upon all matters which might come up for consideration. He followed his preliminary words with prayer and a reading from the Scriptures. The Rev. Dr. John Hall then read the following letter of resignation, and the resolutions adopted by the session on January 6 upon the receipt of the resignation. Then, after reading the following resolution adopted by the session on Monday last:

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NOT FOR CONGRESS TO ACT

MR. HITT REBUKES THE CUBAN EXTREMISTS. HE URGES THAT THE ENTIRE QUESTION BE LEFT IN THE HANDS OF PRESIDENT MCKINLEY, WHO HAS ACCOMPLISHED SO MUCH ALREADY—DEMOCRATS AGAIN BEATEN IN THEIR EFFORTS TO INTRODUCE A BELLIGERENT RESOLUTION.

Washington, Jan. 19.—The question of Cuban belligerency was the vehicle on which the Diplomatic and Consular Appropriation bill was carried through the Committee of the Whole in the House of Representatives to-day without an amendment or a demand for the explanation of a single clause or item of appropriation. The minds and voices of the Democratic demagogues and pettifoggers were as much occupied with a question which was wholly extraneous and irrelevant to the matter under consideration that they could not talk about anything else. One of them—Mr. Prucker, of Michigan—attempted to open the ball even before the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the appropriation bill by offering a resolution to discharge the Committee on Foreign Affairs from further consideration of the Senate Cuban resolution which was referred to it at the special session. The Speaker ruled it out of order and the mover appealed from the decision. By a ye a and nay vote of 168 to 126 the appeal was laid on the table.

AN EXHIBITION OF DEMAGOGY. As soon as the first paragraph of the bill had been read in the Committee of the Whole Mr. Williams, of Mississippi, offered an amendment directing the President to send three commissioners to Cuba to negotiate "a treaty of peace, amity and commerce" with the Cuban republic, and appropriating \$15,000 to defray their expenses. As soon as this amendment had been ruled out of order the picturesque and fluent J. Hamilton Lewis, of Washington, offered another requiring the President to recall the United States Consul-General from Havana, and to give notice to the Spanish Government of "a suspension of diplomatic relations at that point." The chairman ruled this out of order, and Mr. Lewis attempted to appeal from the decision, but the appeal was also overruled on the ground that it was dilatory.

This exhibition of "tyranny" provoked the wrath of Terry, the Arkansas statesman with a foghorn voice, and he began to declaim against it, but was quickly silenced by the tyrannical presiding officer, who insisted on enforcing the rules. Several other amendments relating to the Cuban question were offered and ruled out of order, and a number of pro-forma amendments were used by Democrats as pegs on which to hang five-minute speeches. One of them was by "Henry Clay" Sulzer, the fervor of whose remarks might have led an entire and unbiased stranger to suspect that Mr. Sulzer must have contributed at least a year's salary to the Cuban relief fund.

CHAIRMAN HITT'S SPEECH. The regular order of proceedings having been reversed by agreement, the general debate on the bill began after the bill itself had been disposed of by the Committee of the Whole. It was opened by Chairman Hitt in a short, dispassionate speech, which commanded the attention of the House and provoked much applause on the Republican side. The moderate and reserved manner in which Mr. Hitt dealt with the subject gave added weight and significance to his words, which evidently produced a deep and favorable impression.

Mr. Hitt referred to the keen interest with which the struggle in Cuba had been watched, and spoke of how, in the last Congress, the House, impatient of the delay of the Executive, concurred in the joint resolution expressing its confidence in the President. He said that the sentiment of Congress that the insurgents should be recognized. That resolution went unheeded, and the war went on. The present Executive had come into power a year ago. His sentiments were well known. On this floor and in all his public utterances he had shown his sympathy with any people struggling to better their condition.

He then sketched the course of affairs since Mr. McKinley's advent to power. Mr. Hitt said that the President had immediately demanded the release of the American prisoners in Cuba. In many cases his demand was complied with, but not in all. Then, by the hand of an assassin, the leader of the policy of stern conservative oppression had fallen. His successors pursued the same policy until overthrown. When the Liberal Ministry came in the President had again pressed for the release of the American prisoners. The Ministry yielded at last, and all had received their freedom.

THE PRESIDENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS. But the President had gone further. He had protested with such emphasis and energy against the barbarities of the war and the policy of concentration that General Weyler had been recalled in disgrace, and the policy of concentration had been abandoned. Further even than this the President had gone. He had informed the Sagasta Ministry that the war must cease and proposals for settlement be made within a reasonable time. These representations had been made owing to the great interest all over the country in the struggle the Cubans were making. The President's representations had been listened to by Spain, said Mr. Hitt, and a scheme of self-government, modeled upon that of Canada, had been issued. Whether it would be successful, whether it was practicable or sincere, many might doubt.

Perhaps it would be a harsh judgment now to say it had already failed. But that it was sincere events had already made clear. Those who understood Spain and her machinations far better than we had passed judgment and had already attempted to destroy the