

40TH CONGRESS.

THE FORTIFICATION BILL PASSED BY THE HOUSE.

The Day Consumed in the Senate in Debate on the Oligomargarine Bill.

WASHINGTON, July 19.—House—Immediately after the reading of the journal the House resumed the consideration of the fortification appropriation bill, the pending amendment being that offered by Mr. Randall [Pa.] reducing from \$500,000 to \$100,000 the appropriation for the armament of sea coast defenses.

Mr. Randall withdrew the amendment and offered another, which was adopted by unanimous consent, providing that the guns, projectiles, etc., purchased shall be of American manufacture.

The bill was then passed. The next business was the consideration of the Senate concurrent resolution for the printing of 25,000 copies of the third annual report of the Civil Service Commission. Agreed to—yeas, 188; nays, 40.

Mr. Morrill [Ill.] from the Committee on Rules, reported a resolution ordering a session for tomorrow night to be devoted to the consideration of the construction of bridges. This gave rise to much discussion. Mr. Morrill intimated that the opposition to the resolution came from gentlemen who did not desire the construction of a certain bridge (referring to the proposed new bridge at St. Louis).

Mr. Henderson [La.] said that he did not object to the building of another bridge at St. Louis, but he represented thousands of people in the Mississippi Valley who were opposed to the construction of a low bridge which would interfere with navigation. He had no objection to giving St. Louis another bridge, or two if necessary, but he objected to the construction of a low bridge in the Mississippi Valley for the benefit of the few who wanted to build a cheap bridge at St. Louis.

Mr. Cary [Mo.] suggested that the gentleman when he said he was opposed to a low bridge in favor of a high bridge, was not opposed to a high bridge, but he was opposed to a bridge either high or low, which in the opinion of the Secretary of War, would not interfere with the navigation of the river. It was proposed to build a bridge which would be practically a free bridge, for the bill authorizing the construction provided that no higher rate should be charged over the bridge than over the roads leading to the bridge. There were some gentlemen who lived in the district represented by the gentleman (Mr. Henderson), who had hundreds of acres of land, and they paid an annual rental, and they were interested in getting these cheap rents. If this bridge were built, the value of these lands would be enhanced, and, in each case, the land would be sold, and the proceeds would be used to build a bridge.

The resolution was then adopted. Mr. Cobb [Ind.] from the Conference Committee on the bill repealing the pre-emption, timber culture and desert land laws, reported a complete disagreement.

Mr. Fayson [Ill.] ran over the points of difference between the two houses, and was severe in his condemnation of the Senate amendment, which provides that after a final proof of claimant (under the homestead or pre-emption laws) and the issuance of duplicate receiver's certificates, if it shall be proved to the satisfaction of the commissioner that fraud has entered into the title so acquired by the claimant, unless it shall appear that the land has been sold or conveyed to a bona fide purchaser for a valuable consideration, the commissioner shall suspend the issuing of the certificate for the same. This provision he regarded as an incentive to fraud as it required the commissioner to issue a patent, if the land had been sold to a bona fide purchaser, even though the original title had been acquired by fraud. He hoped that the House would by unanimous vote insist upon its disagreement to this amendment. The workingmen of the bread country had petitioned for the bread to be found in the House bill. The Senate gave them a stone in a bill which violated the franchise which every man who examined them.

Mr. Stone [Mo.] also announced his opposition to the amendment, which he said spread his protecting wings over the most hardened land sharks on the continent. Such legislation would furnish an inducement to the commission of fraud. He could not regard it otherwise than as outrageous and scandalous. It should be indignantly rejected by the House.

Mr. Perkins and Mr. Pomeroy [Kan.] favored the Senate amendment, taking the ground that while the House bill punished the innocent with the guilty, the Senate amendment protected the bona fide purchaser only and punished the land sharks and speculators.

Mr. Gifford [Dak.] charged that in the management of the Land Bureau there was an absence of any discrimination between the caves of honest and dishonest settlers, and asserted that it was the purpose of the Senate amendment to put an end to senseless litigation.

The Knights of Pythias. Toronto, Ont., July 18.—The Supreme Lodge of the Knights of Pythias, at yesterday afternoon's session, decided that it was inexpedient at the present time to take any measures looking to the establishment of a bank for ladies. A large committee was appointed to see to it that a memorial in honor of Samuel Houston Hink, who lost his life while endeavoring to rescue a friend from a burning building.

The Cherokee Post Office Distribution. NEW ORLEANS, La., July 19.—An Indian Territory special of the Times Democrat says: The distribution per capita of \$300,000 received by the Cherokee for grazing privileges is now being made under an act of the Cherokee Legislature and to hill-blood Cherokees only. These number 18,319, and the amount due each is \$15.90. The names and other adopted citizens who claimed a share in the money and whose names have been ignored will carry the matter into the courts. Payment of the money will be finished by August 1st.

Louisville, Tenn. FOUNDATIONS, cellars, and buildings subject to over-see should be completed by Louisville, Tenn. It is the standard.

Mr. Perkins moved that the House recede from its disagreement to the

THE PRISON REFORMERS.

SUNDAY'S SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTIONS AT ST. PAUL.

St. Paul, Minn., July 19.—Several ministers attending the Conference of Charities and Corrections preached in the city churches yesterday morning. The only session of the conference was that at the Plymouth church, last night, the subject of prison reform.

The two regular papers the first was a report by the Rev. J. L. Milligan, of Allegheny, Pa., delegate from Pennsylvania to the International Prison Reform Congress held in London in 1882 and also to the second congress in Stockholm in 1878. He said President Cleveland, as well as the National Prison Association, commissioned him to the International Prison Congress, held at the close of last year in Rome, where it met on invitation of the King of Italy. His speech was one of the most brilliant of the series. Prime Minister Depress was made the president, and spoke the welcome of Italy to the congress. The number of delegates from Europe, Asia, England and America was large and made up of experienced men. The resolutions and resolutions extended by the King and Queen in person, and by other high officials of the government were most cheering. The sessions continued eight days. The display of the prison products of every conceivable manufacture occupied nine large halls in the palace of the arts. The congress was divided in three sections for morning work, and in afternoon met in general convention to hear and pass upon the work of the sections. The questions treated and the conclusions reached pertained to criminal justice, and prison discipline, and preventive measures. The proceeding will make two large volumes and can be secured through our Secretary of State. These may give a fair idea of the breadth and importance of this congress. The next one will convene at St. Petersburg.

THE SECOND PAPER. was one by Gen. B. Kenhoff, of Ohio. It embodied such principles of prison reform as are now recognized as axioms by all leading penologists. The dominant idea in the creation of prisons should be the protection of society from the permanent detainer of prisoners. The old doctrine of retribution or of vengeance is not tenable under the Christian dispensation, and experience has shown that it is not effective. In the reformation of prisoners the requirements are of a high order, and the reformer of prisoners with all offenders in association with other prisoners was as hopeless as purification of a fountain with a cesspool discharging into it. For this reason American jails, with their dark, dreary, and filthy cells, are not much better than the cells of a prison. In jail every prisoner should be kept entirely separate from every other prisoner, and penitentiaries should be carried and classified under the Auburn or Elmira system. Second—The indeterminate sentence under which criminals are retained in prison at most hospitals, from which they are not to be discharged until they are cured. Third—Industrial employment in which labor should be a privilege and not a punishment, and in the reformation of prisoners which should be a part of the reformation. The old system of contract labor should be abolished and the best substitutes in mechanics would be piece prices paid. Fourth—No prisoner should be discharged until he has been fully tested under parole ticket. In fact, the reformation of prisoners is a most important and no prisoner should be discharged until he can read and write. Sixth—Prison punishments which inflict bodily cruelties should be abolished. These are the principles of reformation which should be adopted and which should be the basis of a reformation of prisoners, and which should be the basis of a reformation of prisoners, and which should be the basis of a reformation of prisoners.

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