



LIVELY FIGHT

Over the School Book Question in the Legislature.

STRANGE CONDUCT OF THE SPEAKER

Of the House of Delegates Creates Much Indignation.

A POINT THAT WAS WELL TAKEN

Arbitrarily Overruled by Speaker Edwards, Who Jumps to the Relief of His Partisans on the Pending Question in Great Shape—A Remarkable Proceeding Which Seems to Show That a Certain Publishing House Has a Pull—Members Who Have Had Their Eyes Opened—The Proceedings in Detail.

CHARLESTON, W. VA., Feb. 4.—

This has been a field day in the house and when the sitting was brought to a sudden close, they who looked on were struck dumb with amazement. The speaker had jumped to the relief of his defeated partisans and in defiance of the rules of the house, of parliamentary law, and of common decency had adjourned the house in hot haste to prevent the announcement of a vote carrying a proposition to which he was hostile. The fight was over a feature of the remarkable school book bill, reported by the committee on education. The committee proposed to throw out Harvey's grammar, published by the American Book Company and to put in its place Hyde's Language Lessons, published by Heath & Co., who publish also Dole's "American Citizen," the free trade publication, which the committee asks the legislature to feed to the children of West Virginia.

Mr. Jones, of Kanawha, moved to strike out Hyde's book and to substitute Harvey's, the grammar now in use. After a hot debate the vote was taken by yeas and nays. There were thirty-two votes for Harvey and twenty-seven for Hyde.

A FUNNY PROCEEDING.

Speaker Edwards, seeing defeat for his side, sent a page for Chairman Morris, of the committee on education, brought Morris up and suggested to him to move to postpone the announcement of the vote until to-morrow morning. Mr. Morris got back to his place in a jiffy and fell on the speaker's cue. On this the yeas and nays were called. This was not what the defeated side wanted, and from that side came a motion to adjourn. The point was made that the motion was out of order. The point was obviously so well taken that friends and foes and the disinterested among the legislators were alike amazed when the speaker not only entertained the motion to adjourn but before members could get their bearings, lifted delegates off their feet by declaring the house adjourned. The object was to give to Heath & Co., publishers of Hyde's book, a chance to put in the night working on members in the hope of getting enough changes in the vote to change the result in their favor.

THE ACTION DENOUNCED.

The speaker had packed the committee in this interest, had got the report he wanted and now resorted to these bold tactics to pull the Hyde book through after the house had turned it down. This action is being denounced to-night by overday fair minded men. Some delegates, who voted for Hyde's book, have declared that they will to-morrow change their votes and go the other way, as a protest against the indecent action of the chair.

The incident has raised such a breeze as rarely sweeps through this capital city. It is being asked to-night whether the speaker or delegates compose the house. The morrow is eagerly awaited for a renewal of the fight. If members do not change their minds by morning there will be a raking fight and all in the house that will make the splinters fly.

It is worthy of note that in the committee's bill publishers are required to give the per cent discount on their books. The single exception is Heath & Co., who publish Hyde's book. They are let off with a reduction of 25 per cent, which shows what great luck they are playing in with the house committee.

A LIVELY FIGHT.

The Morris school book bill was called up out of its order on motion of its patron. Mr. James moved to amend by substituting Harvey's grammar for the Hyde books, when the fun began. Mr. Kiser, of Jackson, made a strong speech favoring the amendment. Harvey's grammar might not be perfect, but in his opinion it was much better in point of arrangement than the books it was proposed to substitute for it. He believed in legislating for the state at large, not for any book firm or firms. A large percentage of his people are poor, without ready cash to pay the difference in exchange price. The change would virtually force the people to lose the price paid for the books they now have, and in the present condition of our financial resources it will be an injustice to the people to make a change. If a change must be made let it be made in the future. This is not the time for a change. From a party standpoint it is bad policy. When a Republican legislature votes Harvey's grammar out of the public schools it only puts another nail on the heels of the opposition to ride it to defeat in '96.

Mr. Jones, of Kanawha, said he did not come to the legislature to gratify the whims of lobbyists and book agents. If he did not know anything else he thought he knew something about school books. He believed that on this subject teachers should be heard and not people who know nothing about it. The teachers of Kanawha, as well as of other counties, asked for the retention of Harvey's grammar. This people don't want a change made that will take \$15,000 out of their pockets. Only two counties ask for a change while twenty counties ask for the retention of Harvey's grammar. In taking the position he did, he represented the poorer,

not the richer classes, and the school teachers of his county would sustain him in his action.

POSTPONEMENT OPPOSED.

Mr. Toler, of Kanawha, moved to make the bill a special order for Thursday, as it seemed to be rather crude. The members seemed to be mixed on it and wanted to give them a chance to get their speeches in better shape. Mr. Morris, of Ritchie, opposed this as the question was an important one, and as the time was short, it should be disposed of. Mr. Toler withdrew his motion and the discussion proceeded.

Mr. Morris said in many particulars the bill had been thoroughly discussed and digested in committee and one of them was the list of books recommended. In this matter the opinion of the committee should be duly considered. If it was proposed to override the honest and earnest work of those who had considered the matter for days and months and years it would be best to override the committee altogether and let the house take the matter in its own hands. The argument offered was that no change should ever be made because it might mean additional expense.

WANTS A CHANGE.

Because his father went to school with a stone in one of his sakes was no reason why he should go to mill the same way. Harvey's grammar was an antiquated book, adopted twenty-seven years ago, while the book proposed to take its place was modern and up to the times. Should no change ever be made because it might cost the progressive people of West Virginia a little money? But he denied the statement that the adoption of Hyde's book would be an expense to the people and demanded proof.

The committee had proposed few changes, and they were all the result of honest, deliberate consideration. A newspaper had said we had 27,000 Harvey's grammars in use in the state, and that a change would cost the people \$40,000. This he denied. There was no such number of grammars in use in the state, and if so, how many of them were worth half of their original cost? But the change proposed was not to go into effect until July, 1896. By that time nearly all of those in use now would be worn out. The solution was easy. Don't buy any more grammars this winter and next winter, and by the following winter there would be few of the old books left.

A RESOLUTIONAL CHARGE.

In speaking of the school book fight of 1891 he said that by a result of forgery, committed by somebody—he did not know who—the bill as adopted read "Harvey's grammars," instead of "Harvey's grammar for high schools," and the adoption of Harvey's books now would be virtually condoning a crime—vindicating forgery. In speaking of the matter he desired to say that no reflection was meant on Colonel Peyton, the clerk of the house at that time. He held in his hand the original engrossed bill adopted at that time, and stated that any gentleman present could see that the letter "s" had been written in it afterwards. If the clerk who engrossed the bill desired to state under oath that he knew nothing of it he could have the opportunity of doing so.

Mr. Reynolds, of Mineral, admitted that he was not generally prepared to discuss the relative merits of the two books, except that from his information he understood that Harvey's grammar was an old book, while Hyde's was a new one and much its superior. While the introduction of new books might entail an expense upon the state, he believed the people should relieve themselves of the octopus of the book company. He had examined the engrossed bill and was satisfied that the records of the state had been added to by somebody. He believed there should be a change and had full confidence in the intelligence and integrity of the committee.

The arguments should not be used that because we have a book on the list, it must continue forever. It will not do to yield to that kind of an argument.

MR. DANDRIDGE'S VIEW.

Mr. Dandridge, of Jefferson, said that when he first came he was almost entirely ignorant of the matters involved in the school book question, but he tried to inform himself, and acting on the judgment of the school teachers, as expressed, he favored the adoption of Hyde's Language Lessons. Later he heard to his horror that a decision of the attorney general had rendered void a law of the state. He realized now as never before the immense gravity of the question. People by hundreds, perhaps thousands, had asked him to use his influence for as few changes as possible, but all, or nearly all, admitted that there should be some changes. He felt that he had made a mistake in advocating Holmes's history four years ago, and now, on behalf of the people of Jefferson county, he asked the adoption of Hyde's instead of Harvey's grammar, and he believed in doing so, instead of adding a burden to their shoulders, the present burden would be lightened.

Mr. Smith, of Ohio county, said it seemed there was mixed up in the matter under discussion something far beyond the range of partisanship. He read from the House Journal of 1891 in the list of books adopted where it was printed Harvey's Revised Grammar, while the original engrossed bill showed the "S" in such a way as to leave no doubt that it had been afterwards added.

Mr. Fleming, of Jackson, said that he had felt opposed to making any more changes than were absolutely necessary in the text books of the state. It was true that many of the people of Jackson were poor people, who needed all the spare change they could gather, and they understood the question. They were almost unanimous against a change, except as to history. He was placed in an embarrassing situation. He must either act according to the wishes of his people, or do as he thought best. He believed if the present position was understood, nine out of ten would say, "Do as you think best." He would be glad to retain Harvey's grammar, but his conclusion was, it would be best to abide by the conclusions of the committee.

WANTED FAIR PLAY.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, believed in fair play. He believed that facts should be presented as they are—not as the gentleman would like to make them. There are now 27,780 grammars in use in the state, and the proposition to exchange them for new books would cost the people \$7,975. How many years will it take to pay back the \$7,975 taken

from the little children of the state? Figures showed that the new books over the old would be only one cent per book. He also drew a comparison between Harvey's and Hyde's book, in which he indicated that the Hyde books were not the models of perfection that their advocate claimed.

In the course of these remarks Mr. Morris, who was in the chair, twice sharply directed Mr. Campbell to confine his attention strictly to the question before the house, claiming that the book from which he was reading was not the one it was proposed to substitute. This was the first effort from the speaker's chair to drive Hyde's book through the house under the spur. In regard to the alleged forgery he stated that he was a member of the conference committee that acted upon the disagreements between the senate and house on the school book bill of 1891, and his recollection was that the understanding was that Harvey grammars should be placed upon an equal footing with the other books and the letter "s" was added by agreement. He pointed to the Senate Journal to confirm his assertion and this worked an instant change of sentiment on the subject.

Mr. Campbell's rough treatment at the hands of the temporary speaker, chairman of the education committee, set a good many of the members to sober thinking.

Mr. Jones of Kanawha, spoke again briefly in defense of his amendments, discussing the merits of the books in question, pointing out the superiority of the Harvey books in many respects and stating that it was a matter of their superiority that influenced him and not any favoritism for any publisher.

A QUESTION OF PRECEDENCE.

At the conclusion of Mr. Jones's speech, Mr. Campbell and Speaker Edwards, occupied by Mr. Morris. Mr. Edwards recognized and Mr. Campbell inquired who addressed the chair first himself or Mr. Edwards. Mr. Morris replied with some asperity that he was not there to answer that question—that he had recognized Mr. Edwards—and ordered Mr. Campbell to sit down. Mr. Edwards, however, yielded the floor and Mr. Campbell proceeded to explain that he had secured the Senate Journal, which showed that the record should read "grammars," not "grammar," and that the "s" in the engrossed bill, which had raised such a tempest, properly belonged there.

Mr. Smith, of Ohio, followed, reciting some of the incidents attendant upon the passage of the bill four years ago, saying that the statement of Mr. Campbell only tended to convince him that the same work had been done in the senate that had been done in the house in the hurry attending the close of the session.

Mr. Edwards advocated sustaining the action of the committee. The question was, what was best for the children of the state, and he believed it was good judgment to sustain the argument of the committee, unless good reasons were given for making the change. Mr. Kiser said that in his previous remarks he meant no reflection on the committee. He respected its opinion and its intelligence, but he felt that he was not compelled to vote for any measure that he believed detrimental to the people. When Harvey's grammar was voted down the action would be greeted with curses and denunciations from all over the state. The public opinion is right.

Ninety-nine times out of a hundred he would vote for Harvey's grammar and would meet with the hearty concurrence of his constituents when he went home.

Mr. Harmer, of Harrison, said that he wanted to vote for the best book. With the lights he had he would vote for Harvey's, and that also represented the desire of the people and the teachers of his county.

Mr. Kimes, of Wood, spoke in the same strain. A yeas and nays vote developed 32 for Harvey and 27 for Hyde, and it was at this point that the speaker took the house by the scruff of the neck and threw it out of its hall. Messrs. Campbell and Stamm, of Ohio county, voted for Harvey's, Smith for Hyde's. Mr. Brady arrived from home too late to vote. C. N. H.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Mr. Smith Gets His Mechanic's Lien Bill to Its Third Reading—The Labor Bill. Senators Farr and Reed Unjustly Accused.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

CHARLESTON, W. VA., Feb. 4.—After considerable opposition, Mr. Smith, of Ohio county, succeeded in getting his house bill 66, the mechanic lien law, advanced to its third reading without any amendments that were not acceptable to the friends of the measure. He has taken great interest in this measure, and it is largely due to his efforts that it occupies its present position on the calendar. A number of amendments were proposed that were not acceptable to its patrons, and some time was lost in discussing them, but the bill goes to its third reading, virtually as reported by the committee.

House bill 109 establishing a bureau of labor and board of arbitration run the gauntlet of the house to-day and was ordered to third reading without serious damage. An amendment was made providing that the board be appointed by the governor, president of the senate and speaker of the house, instead of being elected, as originally proposed, and another that the secretary be allowed only \$1,000 per year. The words "necessary expenses" being cut out. The bill was ardently advocated by Toler, of Kanawha, who has watched its progress carefully.

The state bar association will meet here to-morrow and an interesting and important session is expected. The meeting has brought a large number of visitors to the city, among them, of Wheeling, Judge J. G. McClure, of Parkersburg, Judge A. N. Campbell, of Union, J. H. Gaines, of Fayetteville, Col. Robert McElowney, W. L. S. Wiley, P. P. Jacobs, H. McElowney, and F. C. Reynolds, of New Martinsville. Others will arrive to-night and in the morning.

It is not true that Senator Reed offered and that Senator Farr supported the resolution under which a Democrat was appointed assistant clerk in the senate. Mr. Mahood, (Democrat) offered the resolution and Senators Reed and Farr opposed it.

The Mahoning and Shenango Valley Iron Manufacturers' Association, composed of the leading iron concerns of eastern Ohio and western Pennsylvania, have notified the Amalgamated Association that in ninety days they will demand a new scale.

HAWAIIAN REBELLION.

More Correspondence Submitted to the House of Representatives.

ENGLAND WAS NOT IMPLICATED

In the Uprising, So Far as is Known at Present—A Hint Expressed That a United States Vessel at Honolulu Would be Desirable—The Day in the House and the Senate.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 4.—The following correspondence touching Hawaiian affairs was sent to the house of representatives to-day:

"To the President.
"The secretary of state, to whom was referred the resolution of the house dated February 10, 1895, requesting the President to transmit to the house of representatives all information, in regard to arms having been furnished by British subjects to the rebels in the Hawaiian islands; or in regard to any interventions by representatives of Great Britain to prevent the application of martial law as proclaimed by said government to those concerned in said rebellion who claim to be British subjects, has the honor to report that the department has no such information. In a telegram from the United States minister at Honolulu, January 11, Mr. Willis says:

"Arms are reported to have been brought from Vancouver by Norma."

"The department of state has no information in regard to any intervention by representatives of Great Britain to prevent the application of martial law as proclaimed by the Hawaiian government to those concerned in the recent rebellion who claim to be British subjects, or any foreign representative whatever in the case, other than the statement contained in a note of the Hawaiian minister to the undersigned under date of January 20, 1895, that 'the British commissioner at Honolulu, Mr. Hayes, has called upon the government of Hawaii to give him assurance that no capital punishment will be inflicted upon the insurrectionists, there being fifteen Englishmen under arrest, which requested assurance the government has refused to give.'"

"Copies of this note of Mr. Thurston's and of the reply of the undersigned are also annexed."

"W. Q. GRESHAM."

The correspondence referred to is as follows:

Under date of Honolulu, November 10, Minister Willis transmitted to Secretary Gresham the following note of the same date from Mr. Hatch, the Hawaiian minister of foreign affairs: "Information has just been received at this office tending to show that a filibustering expedition against this government is being fitted out in San Francisco. I desire to ask the good offices of your government to prevent the shipment of arms on these vessels for such purpose."

(Signed) "F. M. HATCH."

Under date of November 26, Secretary Gresham acknowledges the reception of the cipher telegram, and continues:

"On the ninth instant the Hawaiian charge d'affaires called at the department on my invitation, and, in reply to an inquiry, said he had no information that arms had been or were to be shipped from San Francisco for use against the government of Hawaii. I then handed him your telegram, which he read and remarked that on the same day he received a telegram from his government via San Francisco, but it contained no such information."

(Signed) "W. Q. GRESHAM."

Following this correspondence with Mr. Willis there was an exchange of notes between Secretary Gresham and Mr. Thurston, the Hawaiian minister here, which contains an insinuation by the latter that the presence of an American warship at Honolulu would be acceptable.

In the House.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 4.—An attempt was made to-day in the house to pass an omnibus bill for the payment of claims for stores and supplies confiscated from loyal people in the south during the war amounting to \$718,663. It excited much opposition, especially from Pennsylvania members interested in the Pennsylvania war claims amounting to \$1,000,000 and not included, and the measure was defeated—95 to 148. A rule was then adopted for the consideration of the currency bill to-morrow, Wednesday and Thursday, after which the remainder of the day was devoted to the agricultural appropriation bill, which was passed without amendment.

In the Senate.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 4.—The senate spent almost the entire day on the District of Columbia appropriation bill and for the first time since the measure was taken up, it did not serve as a text for financial discussion.

Among the bills passed was that for the establishment of a national military park at Gettysburg, Pa., and for the appropriate marking of the chief points on that historic battle ground. As the bill has already passed the house, it will become a law on receiving the president's signature.

BROOKLYN ALDERMEN

Pass Resolutions Revoking Street Car Franchises, But the Mayor Refuses to Sign It.

BROOKLYN, Feb. 4.—The Brooklyn board of aldermen at a meeting this afternoon, adopted the resolution presented by the representatives of the striking motormen and conductors rescinding the franchises and privileges granted to the Brooklyn trolley lines, which are connected with the present strike. The vote stood 10 for; 8 against. When the meeting adjourned a committee consisting of four members of the District Assembly, No. 75, K. of L., called upon Mayor Schieren, to urge him to sign the resolution. He replied: "When this resolution comes before me on Wednesday, in the regular way, I will have something to say about it. I decline to say, in advance, what I shall do."

Have a Kiek Coming.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Feb. 4.—To-morrow morning 150 of the imported motormen who have taken the places of strikers will assemble in Mayor Schieren's office and will ask him whether they cannot recover damages from the railroads for being brought to Brooklyn on false pretenses.

THROUGH THE ICE.

An Electric Car Jumps From a Draw and Three People Were Drowned.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Feb. 4.—An electric car on the Russell avenue line filled with people went through an open draw on the Kinnikinnic bridge this morning. The weight of the car broke the ice and the car went to the bottom of the river.

The car struck edwise on the ice, through which it plunged into the water. The motorman was drowned and at least two passengers lost their lives. The car was bound toward Bay View and was pretty well filled with passengers, but part of them were rescued without serious injury. The ice broke the windows of the car, which stood on end and only partially filled with water. The first body recovered was that of a woman, who was taken out a few minutes after the accident. The confusion was such that nobody could tell an hour after the catastrophe how many people had lost their lives, but it is believed that at least six, beside the motorman, are dead.

There were ten or twelve people in the car, the exact number being unknown. Six were taken out alive, and the others are all dead. Those rescued were: W. P. Severy, 702 Walnut street, hand cut; A. Oertel, 765 Island avenue; G. W. Chase, 727 Fourth street; H. Kuhn, 307 Reed street; R. Brand, 340 Grove street; Elia Wachsoltz, 1118 Eleventh street, hurt about the shoulder.

The dead are: Miss Ehlman, a kindergarten teacher in the Twelfth district primary school and a daughter of Professor Ehlman, director of music in the public schools; John Kennedy, motorman of the car, 145.

The car was in charge of Conductor Peterson. The bridge had been opened to permit the passage of the fireboat Foley, which was breaking the ice in the Kinnikinnic. The members of the Foley's crew rendered assistance in rescuing those who were saved and in recovering the bodies of the victims.

BLEW UP THE BANK.

The Noise Made by the Burglars Shortened Their Time for Escape—A Quick Pursuit.

TOLEDO, O., Feb. 4.—About 4 o'clock this morning a terrific explosion awakened the people of the village of Milan, east of here. A hurried examination showed that the Lockwood bank building had been blown up, the safe cracked and its contents, about \$30,000, taken by five masked men, who, in blowing open the safe, had demolished the building and started an alarm all over the village.

Among the many who started to investigate the explosion was L. L. Stoddard, cashier of the bank, and he was just in time to see the five men leave the bank building, jump into a carriage and drive away on a dead gallop. He fired several shots at them, but without effect, and the men soon disappeared in the direction of Sandusky. At the same time notices were sent by wire in all directions, and the news spread around them so securely that escape was well nigh impossible. At Sandusky two men were caught, while it is only a question of a few hours before the remaining three will find themselves in the toils.

The exact amount of money secured cannot yet be ascertained, but it is believed to be about \$30,000. The bank is a wealthy concern, which fact was doubtless known to the men. The only error in their well laid plans was the heavy explosion which started the alarm. It is quite probable that they had not prepared it with sufficient caution and by that one error their plans were upset and themselves in hourly danger of capture.

MORGANTOWN WITHOUT HEAT.

Wheeling Man Meets With a Serious Accident—Dr. Deroids Resigns.

MORGANTOWN, W. VA., Feb. 4.—The town is almost without fire and light to-night and the population has gone to bed to keep warm. At 2 o'clock the main pipe of the natural gas line burst eight miles from town and cannot be repaired until to-morrow. Gas is used almost exclusively for fuel and there is scarcely a ton of coal or a cord of wood in the town. It is also used for street lights and the place is wrapped in darkness. The thermometer is at zero.

Richard Smith and Charles Klagoth, of this place, and John Kennedy, of Wheeling, met with a horrible accident this afternoon. They were repairing a water pipe line and knocked over on them a vessel containing about a gallon of melted lead. Their faces were terribly burned and Smith and Kennedy will probably lose their eyes.

Dr. Rudolph J. Deroids, who for the past five years has been chemist at the West Virginia experimental station at this place, tendered his resignation to-day, and will accept a position in New York as analytical chemist for a large wholesale drug firm. Dr. Deroids's home is in Baltimore.

The Queen's Speech.

LONDON, Feb. 4.—A forecast of the queen's speech, to be read to-morrow on the re-assembling of parliament is published. Her majesty mentions that the foreign relations are peaceful, touches upon the satisfactory settlement of the boundary difficulties between Sierra Leone and the French Soudan and with reference to the war between China and Japan, mentions the cordial understanding existing between Great Britain and the powers interested in the east. Regret is expressed at the Armenian outrages. The leading measures promised are the amendment of the landlord and tenant law in Ireland, Welsh dis-establishment local option, the abolition of plural voting and the amendment of the government of London.

BRIEFS FROM THE WIRES.

The Western New York & Pennsylvania railroad will be sold at public auction at Pittsburgh to-day.

Secretary Carlisle estimates that the revenues of the government for the coming year will leave a balance of \$22,500.

The official statement of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company places the number of lives lost by the Elbe disaster at 335.

Weather Forecast for To-day.

Far West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania and Ohio, fair, northeast winds.

THE TEMPERATURE YESTERDAY.

As furnished by C. SCHNEPP, druggist, corner Market and Fourteenth streets.

7 a. m. 23 3/4 p. m. 22
9 a. m. 23 7/8 p. m. 17
11 a. m. 21 Weather—Changeable.

"PUSH IT ALONG."

Board of Education Says Compulsory Education is a Good Thing.

LAST NIGHT'S EXCITING SESSION

Of the Board Was Interesting from the Beginning to the End.

THE COMPULSORY BILL APPROVED

And Sent on to Charleston to be Introduced in the Legislature—Colonel Miller Led the Opposition, and at the Wind-up Almost Gained His Side's Point by a Break in the Bare Quorum—Quick Work, However, by the Supporters of the Measure Saved the Day for Them.

Last evening a special meeting of the board of education was held at the board's rooms in the "Hub" building, for the purpose of acting on the report of the special committee instructed to draw up a bill to provide for compulsory attendance at the Wheeling schools, to be presented before the state legislature. Those present were President Ulrich, Messrs. Boyd, Miller, Stanton, Campbell, Walford, Maxwell, Hubbard, Weidner, Berney, Dudley and Milligan, a bare quorum. It proved to be one of the most exciting meetings seen for a long time.

The clerk read the report of the committee, Messrs. Frank Stanton, M. H. Hubbard and J. L. Dickey, in the form of a bill to be enacted by the legislature into a law.

The bill is entitled, "A Bill to enforce attendance upon the schools of the independent school district of Wheeling." The provisions of the various sections are as follows:

THE BILL'S PROVISIONS.

First section—That all parents or other persons having control of any child between the ages of six and twelve years, except as further provided, shall be required to send the child to the public school each year for a period of sixteen weeks, commencing not later than the first Monday of December, unless the child is excused by the superintendent or the board of education, or on account of physical or mental condition, or when taught at a private school or at home by a qualified person. The child may also be excused where his other efforts are necessary to support the family.

Second section—Habitual truants; incorrigible or vicious children, who refuse to attend school, are deemed juvenile disorderly persons and subject to a provision.

Third section—The board of education shall employ one or more truant officers to enforce the provisions of this act, who are vested with police powers.

Fourth section—Truant officers are to make daily reports to the superintendent of schools.

Fifth section—The truant officers are to examine in all cases of truancy and warn such truants of the penalty; also to cause the parents to require the attendance of the truant at some recognized school in five days. When parents refuse to take this action they are liable to a fine, on complaint before a justice of the peace, of \$2 to \$10, or a bond may be required. When parents are unable to enforce the attendance of the child, the latter is considered "a juvenile disorderly" and may be sent to the state reform school.

Seventh section—It shall be the duty of principals of schools, public and private, to report to the clerk of the board of education the names and ages of all pupils, to facilitate the carrying out of the provisions of this act.

Eighth section—Provides for possible neglect on the part of the truant officers, who are liable to fines from \$5 to \$20.

Ninth section—All fines are to be paid to the collector of the city for the benefit of the school fund.

Tenth section—Repeals previous inconsistent legislation.

OPPOSITION DEVELOPS.

Colonel Miller, who lead the opposition to the proposed legislation, raised the point that this matter had been set for the regular February meeting of the board. The clerk was called on for information, but was not certain what action was taken at the last meeting of the committee, practically killing it, but its supporters were awake to the import of the motion; seeing which the colonel withdrew it.

Mr. Stanton, of the committee, next moved the adoption of the committee's report. Mr. Maxwell, a friend of the bill, opposed this as he wished to offer certain amendments. In the discussion Colonel Miller took a leading part, in the course of which he went over the bill from beginning to end, and claimed that it was a weak measure, full of loopholes and imperfections.

"I know that the people of Wheeling do not want compulsory education," said Colonel Miller, "and that is the reason I oppose it. Wheeling does not need compulsory education, as much as the thinly settled portion of the state. Fifty years ago there might have been an excuse for such a measure, but there is none to-day. There may be fourteen per cent of illiterate in the state, but that proportion does not exist in Wheeling."

DR. CAMPBELL WAS THE NEXT SPEAKER

and vigorously opposed the bill.

ATTEMPT TO ADJOURN.

A motion made by the opposition of the bill, to adjourn, was lost, the vote showing the strength of both sides, as follows:

Yeas—Boyd, Campbell and Weidner; total 3.

Noes—Birney, Dudley, Hubbard, Maxwell, Miller, Milligan, Stanton, Walford, Ulrich; total 9.

Mr. Stanton, of the committee, ably defended the bill and objected to its opponents picking out isolated portions of the bill for attack, and maintained that taken on the whole it is as near perfect as is possible and will work in practice. In conclusion, he said he was willing to take up the matter by sections.</