



THE ODDS AGAINST CUBA

Democrats Buck in Vain Against the Ruling of the Speaker.

DEBATE GOES ON ALL DAY IN THE HOUSE

Senate Warms Up Over a Discussion in Regard to Reducing the Letter Carrier Force in Certain Cities—Leads and Frauds in Postal Service.

Washington, Jan. 19, 1898. All day long the question of granting belligerent rights to the Cuban insurgents was argued in the House, but, as on yesterday, the minority hurled itself against a stone wall. On the only vote taken to-day a motion designed to overrule the decision of the Speaker and direct the Committee on Foreign Affairs to report without further delay the Cuban resolution passed by the Senate at the last session—the Republicans stood solid and voted to sustain the chair.

The galleries, as on yesterday, were banked to the doors, and there was considerable excitement throughout the early part of the session, when the members of the minority were successively pressing all sorts of amendments bearing on the Cuban question for the purpose of embarrassing the majority.

The debate was precipitated by Mr. Brucker (Democrat, Michigan) who asked unanimous consent for the consideration of a resolution instructing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to report without further delay the Senate Cuban belligerency resolution.

Mr. Hitt, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, made a point of order, which the Speaker promptly sustained, and was about to recognize Mr. Hitt to call up the Diplomatic and Consular Appropriation bill, when Mr. Bailey demanded recognition.

"One moment, please," he called, "let us first dispose of this question of order."

"The chair sustained the point of order," retorted the Speaker, tersely.

"Then appeal," called Mr. Bailey to Mr. Brucker across the hall, and the Michigan member entered an appeal from the decision of the chair. All was instantly excitement and confusion. A dozen members were on their feet demanding recognition to debate the appeal, but the Speaker recognized Mr. Dalzell, who moved to lay the appeal on the table. This cut off debate, and the Speaker put the question. On a rising vote the Republicans stood firm and voted 107 to 94 to lay the appeal on the table. The yeas and nays were demanded and obtained by Mr. Bailey.

The Democrats who expected to see the Republican line broken were disappointed. The majority presented an unbroken front.

Mr. White, of North Carolina, the solitary colored member of the House, when his name was called, declined to vote at all, answering "present." But at the conclusion of his resolution and voted "aye." The motion to lay the appeal on the table was carried, 168-126.

The House then, on Mr. Hitt's motion, went into committee of the whole and resumed the consideration of the Diplomatic and Consular Appropriation bill. As soon as the first paragraph was read the struggle was resumed.

Mr. Williams (Democrat, Mississippi) offered an amendment to direct the President to appoint three commissioners to proceed to Cuba and, if possible, negotiate a treaty of peace, amity and commerce with the Republic of Cuba, and appropriating \$15,000 for defraying the expenses of the commissioners. It was ruled out of order.

Immediately afterward Mr. Lewis (Democrat, Washington) offered another amendment providing that to emphasize the fact that a state of war existed in Cuba, the consul general of the United States at Havana be withdrawn and the Government of Spain be notified of a suspension of diplomatic relations.

At that point Mr. Hitt quickly raised a point of order, which Mr. Hepburn, in the chair, sustained.

"I appeal from the decision of the chair," said Mr. Lewis.

"And I make the point that the appeal is dilatory," exclaimed Mr. Dalzell (Republican, Pennsylvania).

"The chair sustains the point of order," declared Mr. Hepburn, who directed the clerk to proceed with the reading.

The reading of the bill went on, interrupted every few minutes by five minute speeches from the Democratic side on Cuba.

Mr. Sulzer (Dem.), of New York, offered an amendment directing the President to notify Spain that unless the war ceased in thirty days we would recognize the independence of Cuba and enforce our position by force of arms.

Mr. Wilson (Dem.), of South Carolina, presented the Cuban question in still a new form in hope to extract it on the bill provided for a change in the salary of the United States Consul-General at Havana, pending the continuance of the present war. Mr. Wilson declared that it would be a blot on the name of the House of Representatives if it prevented a vote on the question of war in Cuba—blot comparable only to that of the law written in blood, and of the law written so high that it could not be read. Mr. Hitt's point of order disposed of this last amendment.

Mr. Hitt opened the general debate

on the pending bill with a brief but important statement as to our foreign relations with Spain, Cuba, and the course of the administration.

He sketched the course of affairs since Mr. McKinley's advent to power and told of the successful efforts of the President in obtaining the release of all American prisoners in Cuba. But the President had gone farther. He had protested with such emphasis and energy against the barbarities of 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 notified the Sagasta Ministry that the war must cease and proposals of settlement 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 the scheme of self-government, modelled upon that of Canada, had been issued. Whether it would be successful, said he, many might doubt. Perhaps it would be a harsh judgment now to say it had already failed.

Every act of the President, continued Mr. Hitt, had shown that the spirit which animated him in his public utterances in the past. He had achieved much in a few months, but he said that he thought it unwise for the United States at this time to recognize the belligerency of the insurgents.

Mr. Hitt admonished the members that a national action must be vindicated before the world, and that we must prove in what we do that we are actuated by no vulgar greed to rob a neighbor or to seize property of others. Proceeding, he dwelt upon the effect of the extension of belligerent rights to the insurgents, arguing that it would give Spanish cruisers the right of search and impose a great hardship on the Cubans, who were without a navy.

A declaration of belligerency would allow Spain's war ships to hunt our vessels on the high seas. In the existing situation, good men sympathizing with Cuba's cause, were constantly making their way to the islands. Supplies, guns and ammunition were going from the United States. Members, he said, might ask why, with all these disadvantages in store for them, the agents of the Cuban republic in this city desired belligerent rights. "I could explain it," said Mr. Hitt, "but I prefer to do so in the words of one of these agents to me.

"We know," said this gentleman, "that we have much to lose in the matter of supplies, but we also know that if Spanish cruisers begin to stop American skippers it will not be long before a hasty shot is fired. With that shot public opinion in Spain and the United States will plunge those countries into war; then our battle will be over."

"That perhaps is a very just argument for the Cuban," continued Mr. Hitt, "but not for an American. If we are to have war let us face it directly, not be forced into it by a chance. I do not blame the Cubans, however, any more than I blame the Confederate who, during the rebellion, hoped to precipitate war between the United States and Great Britain, knowing that once war came the contract for freeing the Confederacy would be taken off his hands."

Mr. Hitt spoke of the Spanish authority in Havana as tottering between armed forces without and tumultuous riot within, but with impressive words warned the members that they cast responsibility of action with the momentous consequences that might ensue, rested on the shoulders of the executive, not on members of Congress, who might be making speeches for popular approval.

He referred to General Lee as an officer of ability and experience who could be relied upon to guard jealously our honor at Havana and concluded with an eloquent appeal to the members of the House, though they might have had differences, to drop all other voices as they did in the Venezuelan crisis, and stand by the President and the country. While he could not prophesy as to the future he solemnly assured the House that the President would not disappoint the expectations of his countrymen.

As Mr. Hitt concluded a roar of approval swept the floor and the galleries.

Mr. Dismore, of Arkansas, the leading minority of the committee on Foreign Affairs, replied to him and Messrs. Adams (Rep.), of Pennsylvania, chairman of the Cuban sub-committee of the same committee, Berry (Dem.), and Wheeler (Dem.), of Kentucky, also addressed the House during the general debate. The debate will close to-morrow at 4 o'clock under the arrangements made to-day when a final test will be made on a motion, of which Mr. Williams, (Dem.), of Mississippi, gave notice to-day, to recommit the bill with instructions to report back the Cuban resolution as a rider.

At 5 o'clock the committee rose and the House adjourned.

SENATE.

A spirited debate was precipitated in the Senate to-day by the introduction of a resolution by Mr. Hoar, of Massachusetts, providing for an inquiry by the Committee on Postoffice and Post Roads concerning the recent order of the Postmaster General reducing the force of letter carriers in several cities of the country. Mr. Hoar declared that the order had had the effect of a dynamite bomb in creating consternation among business men throughout the country, while apparently all that was needed by the Postoffice Department was an appropriation of \$150,000 fully to maintain the efficiency of the carrier service.

The debate took a wide range. Mr. Wolcott, chairman of the Committee on Postoffice and Roads, insisting that many New England people represented by the Senator from Massachusetts

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LOOKS LIKE A DEADLOCK

Maryland Legislature Bills Again Without Result.

REPUBLICAN REGULARS DISAPPOINTED

Party Pressure from Washington Talked of—Baltimore Bolters Declare They Will Not Go Into a Caucus—There is Some Possibility of a Combination.

Annapolis, Md., Jan. 19, 1898.

The morning of the second day of the Senatorial fight in the Maryland Legislature found the situation practically unchanged as far as surface indications go. No material change from yesterday was anticipated, but the belief is very strong that a crisis is approaching.

During the early morning hours a well defined rumor became prevalent to the effect that the national leaders of the Republican party meant to take hold of the fight in Maryland, and apply the party lash in the interest of Judge McComas. One of the effects of this rumor has been to seriously check several very promising booms. Another story is that a large delegation from the Western portion of the State in which Judge McComas resides are on their way here, and that methods similar to those which resulted in the election of Senator Wellington two years ago are to be employed in the contest. Upon the other hand the eleven members of the House of Delegates who are unalterably opposed to McComas insist that under no circumstances can they be brought into line. Without them no Republican can be elected. With their votes and those of their Democratic allies an election in a joint convention can be had or indefinitely postponed.

Today's ballot, resulted as follows: McComas, 36; Shaw, 11; Shroyck, 2; Millikin, 2; Barber, 6; Urner, 1; Gorman, 46; Flinday, 2; Farran, 6; Lowndes, 1. Total, 113. Necessary to choice, 57. Absent, 4.

The vote cast for Judge McComas shows an increase of two over that received by him yesterday. One of these came from Senator Dobler, of Baltimore city, who left the Shaw ranks, and the other from Delegate Dryden, of Somerset, who was absent on the first day of the balloting. Major Shaw's loss through the desertion of Senator Dobler was made up by the accession of Delegate Robinson, of Baltimore city, who voted for General Shroyck yesterday. Senator Gorman gained a vote in the person of Senator Applegarth, who voted yesterday for Judge Henry Page.

The outcome of the day's balloting was a distinct disappointment to the followers of Judge McComas, they having confidently expected a gain of at least eight more votes than they got. These were to have come from Delegate Chapline, of Fredericksburg; Senator Putzel, of Baltimore, and the six who have been voting for ex-State Senator Farran. Why the latter did not change cannot be ascertained. Their failure to do so is now thought to indicate the possible re-appearance of Postmaster-General Gary as a candidate, as these votes are looked upon as his whenever he wants them. There are many who confidently expect a Shroyck landslide within a few days if some one else is not chosen within that time.

A caucus of the Republican majority will almost certainly be held to-morrow night, and an attempt will be made to force the recalcitrants into line. Thirty-one signatures have been appended to the call, and it is asserted that six more will be added before midnight. Thirty-four are necessary to secure a majority of the Republican members and Senators of the General Assembly. It is said that Postmaster General Gary has requested his six supporters from Southern Maryland who have voted for the past two days for Thomas Parson for Senator, to go into caucus and abide by the decision of that body. Mr. Parson is in town to-night and has supplemented the request of General Gary with a personal appeal to his friends. It is claimed that a majority of the six have signified their willingness to do so.

Indications of an attempt at coalition between the faithful eleven and the Democratic members for the purpose of electing a Baltimore city man are growing stronger every hour. To-night it is freely asserted that the only thing that stands in the way of it is the inability of the Democratic leaders to get some of their followers to toe the mark, and the possibility that some of the eleven may refuse to go into the scheme.

If the coalition can be effected and made to succeed the next Senator from Maryland will be either Major Alexander Shaw or William T. Malster.

REVENUE CUTTER DISABLED.

Wilmington, N. C., Jan. 19.—A special to the Star from Southport says: Cadet Wilde in an open boat with a crew of five men from the revenue cutter Morrell arrived here at 10 o'clock to-night after a pull of twenty miles through the darkness and rain. He reported that the cutter blew out the lower tube in her boiler late in the afternoon while cruising off Tubbs' Inlet, about twenty miles from Cape Fear bar. She was compelled to anchor there and wait for assistance.

ARMOR PLATE PROBLEM

Secretary Long Before the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs.

ESTIMATED COST OF EQUIPPING A PLANT

Will Require from \$3,500,000 to \$4,500,000—Plates Can Be Obtained for Ships Under Construction for \$400 a Ton—No Action Taken by the Committee.

Washington, Jan. 19, 1898.

Secretary Long, accompanied by Chief Constructor Hichborn, Chief O'Neill, of the Bureau of Ordnance, and Judge Advocate General Lemley appeared before the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs to-day. The Secretary said in response to questions that the Navy Department had prepared full plans and specifications calling for an armor plant under the last Naval Appropriation bill, and that estimates on the cost of land, tools and machinery necessary to equip the plant had been made. The bids were to be opened on the 29th instant and he thought several bids would be made.

Secretary Long said also that in view of the report of the committee which he had appointed to consider the question of a government armor plant, upon the great cost and delay it would involve that he had entered into further negotiations with private armor plants now furnishing armor for other ships, and he believed that he could make a contract for the supply of armor plate for the Illinois, Alabama and Wisconsin, now under course of construction, which would be ready whenever the ships were ready to receive it at the rate of \$400 per ton. The Secretary recommended in view of the circumstances that an arrangement to this effect be made.

From the Secretary's statement, corroborated by statements by Commander Hichborn and Captain O'Neill, it appears that the cost of a Government plant properly equipped would be from \$3,500,000 to \$4,500,000. He said that this estimate included all machinery for making armor plate, guns and projectiles, and added that if the Government adopted the policy of providing its own plant, no armor could be expected from such plant for about three years.

The committee has taken no action upon the armor plate matter, and it is considered probable that the whole question will receive attention in that connection.

OPERATORS AND MINERS.

Differences Likely to Be Settled by the Adoption of an Eight Hour Day.

Chicago, Jan. 19.—Two brief sessions were held by the Interstate Bituminous Coal Operators and Miners to-day, and adjournment was taken until to-morrow pending the scale committee's report. From a public point of view everything in and about the convention appeared calm; but in the secrecy of the scale committee's chamber the old war between operators of the Ohio and Pennsylvania fields was fiercely raging.

Early in the session of the committee the question of hours of labor was thoroughly gone over. Representatives of the workmen favored an eight hour day; but their principal contention was for a uniform day in place of the varying hours now established in the different States. The operators were willing to meet them half way and it is understood a uniform working day of nine hours will be recommended to the convention.

The knotty problem of State differential was then taken up. This brought Ohio and Pennsylvania operators together with a crash.

The issue between these two States is of years' standing. Ohio operators have hitherto succeeded in securing a rate of 5 to 10 cents per ton below the Pennsylvania scale, while 5 is claimed by the Pennsylvania people that Ohio operators obtain 25 to 29 cents more per ton for their output. It is probable that the scale committee will be unable to agree on all matters before them and will make their troubles known to the full convention, asking for further instructions.

LIGHT ON THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

Story of His Detection Told by a London Paper.

London, Jan. 19.—With every show of authority the Pall Mall Gazette this afternoon prints prominently an article purporting to give the inwardness of the Dreyfus case, and explains that the document, in addition to the Bordereau 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 and explains in some measure the attitude of the government. I have the facts on indisputable authority that when his predecessor, Baron Von Huneke, left Paris he handed Von Funcke a list of persons in France who were in relation with the German intelligence department, enjoining 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, in the meanwhile had discovered his loss, and like an honest soldier and attaché, hastened to inform the German government of his mishap, hence his recall.

"Curiously enough, the woman refused compensation, though a large sum was offered her, but she caused amusement at the foreign office by remarking that what she had done was for La Patrie (the fatherland).

"With the photograph of the document the French government went deliberately to work, and I am assured on authority that leaves no room for doubt that the name of Dreyfus appeared on it, but, it being a common name in both Germany and France, suspicion did not immediately fall on the officer, subsequently condemned. Later it served as confirmatory evidence."

GLADSTONE'S HEALTH FAILING.

His Condition Such as to Give Rise to Great Anxiety.

London, Jan. 19.—The Pall Mall Gazette this afternoon makes the following announcement in big type:

"With deep regret we learn on most excellent authority that Mr. Gladstone's health causes the gravest anxiety to those about him. His sojourn at Cannes has not had the effect of fortifying his strength as anticipated.

"The news placards of the Gazette read: 'Critical condition of Mr. Gladstone.'"

The Westminster Gazette, although minimizing the alarming reports concerning the health of Mr. Gladstone, is not constrained to admit the fact that Mr. Gladstone has suffered great pain most of the time he has been at Cannes, being unable to leave his sofa.

Continuing, the Westminster Gazette remarks: "So far as the vital organs are concerned, however, he is no worse. On the other hand, continuous pain in a man of Mr. Gladstone's age is undoubtedly a symptom to cause anxiety."

An official medical statement issued to-night re-asserts that there is no cause for alarm, as to Mr. Gladstone's health, although it is not benefited as much as had been hoped at Cannes. The facial neuralgia pains persist with daily fluctuations owing to the cold winds and wet weather; but the complaint is quite local. His physical powers have not suffered, his strength is good, his appetite excellent, he joins the family at meals and takes regular drives, weather permitting.

It is not true that the family has been summoned. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gladstone will go to Cannes on Saturday in accordance with an arrangement made weeks ago. Lord Stuart Rendel (with whom Mr. Gladstone is visiting), telegraphed to-night at 8:40 that Mr. Gladstone's health was unchanged.

MORGAN TALKS ON.

He Declares That Cleveland Was Favorable to Annexation of Hawaii.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 19.—Senator Morgan continued his speech in advocacy of the ratification of the Hawaiian annexation treaty in the executive session of the Senate to-day. He announced at the conclusion of to-day's session that he probably would require one more day in which to complete his presentation of the subject.

Senator Morgan dealt to-day with the question of the agricultural and commercial possibilities of the islands, with the character of the present Government of the islands and the position of the residents of the island on the subject of annexation. He repeated his assertion that President Cleveland was favorable to the acquisition of the islands, and again expressed the opinion that it was his intention to have restored Queen Liliuokalani and to have negotiated with her a treaty of annexation. He elaborated his views on this subject at considerable length, saying that while he believed it was Mr. Cleveland's intention to do this through the restoration of the Queen when she made known her bloodthirsty disposition toward those who had dethroned her. He expressed the opinion that Mr. Cleveland would never have taken such positive position as he did take against the Dole government and in opposition for annexation but for the antagonistic and misleading report of Commissioner Blount.

COMMERCIAL CONGRESS.

Invitations Issued to the Fifth Annual Meeting at Tampa Next Month.

Tallahassee, Fla., Jan. 19.—Governor Bloxham has issued an invitation to the Governors of the Southern and Western States to attend the fifth annual session of the South and West Commercial Congress, to convene at Tampa, Fla., February 8th, 9th and 10th, 1898. The Governors are also requested to appoint delegates to the congress.

The principal objects of the Congress are to consider the means to increase the interchange of all merchandise and manufactured articles between the South and West, and to promote the movement of grain and all other products of the Western States to Southern distributing markets and through Southern ports for exports.

All the Governors, commercial organizations, municipal governments and transportation companies of the South and West have been requested to appoint delegates to this congress. A great many have already responded and the success of the congress is assured.

Excursions to points of interest on the Gulf of Mexico and other forms of entertainment will be provided for delegates and their friends.

QUIET AT THE CAPITOL

Legislature Took Holiday and Many Members Went to Washington.

ONE COMMITTEE HELD A MEETING

Contest for a Judgeship—Stubbs Matter Comes up at Lynchburg Today—City Engineer Cutshaw Going to Mexico—Dr. Grammer's Successor Elected.

(Special Dispatch to The Virginian.)

Richmond, Va., Jan. 19, 1898.

This was an exceedingly quiet day at the Capitol. There was no session of the General Assembly. More than a score of members spent the day in Washington. The special Committee on Retrenchment and Reform held a brief session. Several important bills were unanimously agreed upon. The most of these are, it is said, designed to bring about reforms by amendments to the Constitution. This committee has its work in good shape, and it looks as if the committee, which is composed of five Senators and five Delegates, would be able to agree upon a number of bills looking to cutting down expenses.

Mr. Reddy's bill providing a method for voters to express their choice for candidates for United States Senator, will probably come up before the House Committee on Privileges and Elections next week. Interest in this measure is increasing. It is generally supposed that Senator Martin's following would fight the bill, but I find some very influential Martin men who are in favor of the bill, and some anti-Martinites who are opposed to it.

The House will resume consideration of the Employers' Liability bill to-morrow, and it is likely that a vote will be reached in a day or two. It is probable that the bill will pass, but the House is a very uncertain body, and no one can safely predict what will be the result of any vote.

There is a hot fight on for the vacancy on the bench in the Fredericksburg judicial circuit, occasioned by the death of Judge Benton. Senator John E. Mason, of King George, is undoubtedly leading. He has not only the advantage by reason of being a member of the Legislature, but is a gentleman of much popularity. Judge F. W. Sims, of Louisa, is Mr. Mason's strongest rival. Half a dozen influential citizens of his county are here advocating for him. Mr. George P. Haw, of Hanover, is another candidate, and Judge Moncure, of Caroline, will probably enter the race. The caucus will be held some time next week.

Quite a number of persons left here to-day for Lynchburg to attend the meeting of the Advisory Council of the Grand Camp of Confederate Veterans, which will meet here to-morrow to consider the case of Colonel Stubbs. About a dozen went from Richmond, among them Messrs. T. A. Brander and N. V. Randolph, who preferred the charges against Colonel Stubbs and Colonel Cussins who resigned from the History Committee because Colonel Stubbs was a member of it. Senator Ople and Delegate Wharton, who are members of the committee, left also for the Hill City.

While this day was a legal holiday in Virginia, it was not very much observed here. The banks were closed and the Legislature did not meet, but nearly everything went on as usual. Exercises were held at the Soldiers' Home at noon, and Mr. Charles M. Wallace, Jr., a member of the House from Richmond made an address. The annual camp fire of Lee Camp was held to-night, and the speaker was Captain R. S. Parks, of Page county.

It is rumored that City Engineer W. E. Cutshaw is to leave Richmond to accept a position as engineer for a mining company in Mexico. He is now on a visit to that country. Colonel Cutshaw has in his pocket the highest priced official the city has in its employ.

Governor Tyler has honored the requisition of the Governor of North Carolina for E. M. Womble, who is charged in Raleigh with the theft of a watch and chain. Womble is now in jail in Norfolk.

The Rev. Dr. J. Houston Eggleston, of Emanuel church, Baltimore, was elected here this afternoon by the trustees of the Theological Seminary at Alexandria as dean of that institution and professor of church history. He will succeed Professor Carl E. Grammen, who goes to Norfolk in March.

BUTTERWORTH'S FUNERAL.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 19.—Funeral services over the remains of the late Major Benjamin Butterworth, Commissioner of Patents, were held this afternoon at the Church of the Covenant, Rev. Tomus S. Hamlin, the pastor, conducting the simple exercises of the Presbyterian church. The church was crowded, those present including President McKinley and all the members of his Cabinet except Secretary Alger, who is ill, beside a number of Senators and Representatives, members of the bar and resident Washingtonians.

FAVORABLE REPORT.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 19.—The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations to-day authorized a favorable report upon the nomination of the Hon. C. P. Bryan, to be Minister to Brazil, and upon that of the Hon. E. H. Conger, who is transferred from Brazil to China. No opposition has developed to Mr. Bryan's appointment to Brazil.