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It contains every improvement that inventive genius, skill and industry can produce.  
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**WORK OF THE SESSION.**  
A List of the Important Measures that were Enacted into Law.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—The first session of the forty-ninth congress, which ended to day, began on Monday, December 7th, 1885, and covered a period of seven months and twenty eight days, or 241 days exclusive of Sundays. Of this time the senate was in session 164 days and the house 185 days. During that time there were introduced in the two houses 18,202 measures, of which 10,014 were house bills and 214 house joint resolutions, and 2,891 bills and eighty-three joint resolutions of the senate. Measures prepared for enactment into laws exceeded in number by 2,949 those introduced at the first session of the forty-eighth congress, which set for seven months and four days, or 165 days of actual working time. They covered all sorts of subjects, from the patient laborer at the capitol for extra services to the complex question of tariff legislation and legislation with respect to national finance. Of the entire number comparatively few were of what may be termed of national importance. The greater number were measures of a private nature or of merely local importance, such as relief and pension bills, bills for erection of public buildings, for bridging rivers, for granting right of way to railroads through military or Indian reservations, for removal of political disabilities, for changing judicial districts, for establishing new land offices, for changing names of location or increasing capital stock of national banks, for printing public documents, etc., etc.

A very small percentage of the whole number of bills introduced, of either a general or private nature, became laws. A comparatively small number succeeded in getting through the committees to which they were referred and reaching the calendars of their respective houses. Some secured passage by the house in which they originated, but failed of action in the other branch and a very large number still remain unconsidered by the committees to which they were referred.

MEASURES THAT PASSED.  
The total number of bills that passed both houses was 1101; 241 senate bills and 860 bills which originated in the house. Of this total 806 became laws with the president's approval. 181 became laws by limitation, the president failing either to approve or disapprove them within ten days after their presentation to him, 113 were vetoed and one failed by reason of adjournment without action by the president.

Of the new laws, 746 were house measures and 241 senate measures. Laws that became such by limitation were, with two exceptions private pension and relief bills. The exceptions were the bill to authorize the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Gulf railway to construct a railroad through Indian land and that to retire Lieutenant Randall.

Of measures vetoed by the president thirty-six were senate bills and seventy-seven bills of the house. Twenty-eight of the senate bills vetoed were private pension bills, three were for the creation of public buildings at Dayton, Sioux City Iowa, and Zanesville, Ohio, one was to grant to railroad the right of way through Indian reservation in Northern Montana, one to make Springfield, Mass., a port of delivery, one to provide that the bodies of paupers and criminals and strangers dying within the District of Columbia, unclaimed within a specified time after death, be turned over to medical colleges, one to quiet titles to settlers on the Des Moines river lands, and one to provide for the construction of a bridge across Lake Champlain. Of the house bills disapproved by the president seventy-four were private pension bills and three were for erection of public buildings, one at Asheville, N. C., Duluth, Minn., and Springfield, Mo. The number of measures vetoed during the session were four more than have been vetoed from the foundation of the government to the beginning of the session just closed. While nearly all of the vetoed bills of the senate were reported back from committee with recommendation that they pass notwithstanding the president's objections, and while similar action was taken on some of the house bills, only one, that granting a pension to Jacob Romizer, was passed by the two houses over the veto. The Des Moines river bill passed the senate over the veto, but failed to receive the requisite two-thirds vote in the house. Motions to pass bills to grant pensions to Mary Anderson and Andrew J. Wilson over the president's veto were defeated in this house. Consideration of the other veto measures has been postponed until next session.

Measures of importance that have been enacted into laws during the session, in addition to the regular appropriation bills, are as follows:  
Presidential succession bill.  
To provide for the study of the nature and effect of alcoholic drinks and narcotics.  
To remove the charge of desertion against soldiers who reenlisted with out having received a discharge from the regiments in which they had previously served.  
To legalize the incorporation of national trades unions.  
To give receivers of national banks power to buy any property of a bank sold under foreclosure, when necessary to protect his trust.  
To regulate the promotion of graduates of United States military academy.  
To limit owners of United States merchant vessels and of any property on board thereof, to sue the United States for damage by collision arising from the mismanagement of any government vessel.  
Accepting the Grant medal and trophies.  
To provide that surveyed lands granted to railroad companies coterminous with complete portions of such roads, in organized counties, shall not be exempt from local taxation on account of the lien of the United States upon them for the cost of survey, so selecting and conveying. It also makes provision for selling such lands on refusal of neglect of the companies to pay the costs of survey.  
The oleomargarine bill.  
Bill for increase of the navy.  
To provide that homestead settlers within railroad limits, restricted to less than 160 acres, shall be entitled to have their additional entries patented without any further proof of settlement and cultivation.  
To reduce fees on domestic money orders for sums not exceeding \$5 from 8 cents to 5 cents.  
To allow steam towing vessels to carry, in addition to their crews, as the supervising inspector may authorize.  
For the relief of Fitz John Porter.  
To provide for the sale of the Cherokee reservation.  
To enable national banking association to increase their capital stock and to change their names of location.  
To authorize the construction of a building for accommodation of the congressional library.  
Providing that after July 1, 1886, no fees shall be charged to American vessels for measurement of tonnage, issuing licenses, granting certificate of registry, etc., and amending the laws relative to the shipping and discharging of crews, liabilities of owners, licensing vessels, etc.  
To forfeit lands granted to the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad company, and restore the same to retirement.  
To increase to \$12 a month the pensions of widows and descendant relatives of deceased soldiers and sailors.  
Declaring forfeited certain land grants made to the states of Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana.  
To amend section 334 of the revised statutes, so as to require brewers commencing business to give bond in a sum equal to three times the amount of tax which they will be liable to pay during any one month, and to execute a new bond whenever required.  
Directing the secretary of the treasury to deliver to the proper claimants or owners silverware, jewelry, etc., captured by the United States army during the late war and to sell at public auction all such articles not claimed within one year.  
To direct a commissioner of labor to make an investigation as to convict labor.  
To establish life-saving stations on the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and on the great lakes.  
Providing that manufactured tobacco, snuff and cigars may be removed for export without payment of a tax and repealing the law providing for inspection of tobacco.  
To extend the immediate delivery system.  
To increase pensions of soldiers who have lost an arm or a leg.

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