

## MR. ALDRICH WAS BLUFFING

### He Offered to Allow Immediate Voting on the Bill, but "Crawled."

## EXCITING INCIDENT IN SENATE

**Rhode Island Senator Tried a Trick on the Democrats, but They Were Too Sharp for Him—Democrats Wanted to Accept His Very Innocent Proposition.**

This was a field day in the Senate. There was maneuvering, marching, clashing and rapid firing. The bugle notes of defiance have been sounded on both sides. The battle flags waved in the Senate over the heads of chieftains of tariff reform and protection. Hostilities did not actually begin, and it was apparent that there was no intention that they should begin. There was counter marching, skillful retreats, and a quick reforming of lines, leaving the contending armies within the same fortifications and camping on the same grounds as before.

The discussion was started by the senior

Senator from Ohio, Mr. Sherman. It was not his intention to create a disturbance when he injected a remark into the speech of Senator Lindsay of Kentucky. The junior Senator from Ohio has been enjoying considerable notoriety by his recent assertion that "a tariff bill had been agreed upon by the Democratic leaders which would pass the Senate," but it was not Senator Sherman's intention to again bring Ohio prominently to the front.

led by Mr. Aldrich, who is the recognized leader of the Republicans on the tariff light, and in the colloquy in which he engaged with Mr. Lodge, developed the most interesting situation that has arisen since the opening of the tariff debate in the Senate. Mr. Aldrich had pointed out the difference of opinion between the Democrats of the Senate and the House, and Mr. Lodge had intimated that they could not vote for a tariff bill, to which Mr. Lindsay replied that if the Republicans would give them an opportunity they would soon show that they could act alone.

Mr. Aldrich here startled the Senate by offering in behalf of the Republicans to vote "in and out" on the bill as it came from the House. Mr. Lodge, who had been hitherto thrust by asking why not vote upon the bill as reported by the Senate Finance Committee.

Mr. Aldrich here became bold, out at the

asked Mr. Lindsay if the Democrats would vote on the bill as it now stood. The Kentucky Senator was willing, so far as he was concerned, but could not pledge the vote of his colleagues. Mr. Aldrich demanded that Mr. Harris of Tennessee speak for the Dem-

The interest of the Senators and spectators in the galleries became intense. All eyes centered upon the sturdy white-haired Senator

There were hurried consultations, and it was soon known that the defiance of the Republicans would be hurled back, and there was an air of expectancy when Mr. Lindsay neared the end of his speech. When he finished Mr. Harris was on his feet immediately, and although others also sought the floor he was recognized.

In an earnest and dramatic manner he read the verbatim report of the colloquy between the Rhode Island and Kentucky Senators and himself, and at its conclusion he accepted the proposition to vote on the Senate bill, and followed it up with a request for unanimous

consent for such a vote at 3 o'clock.

It was at once apparent that Mr. Aldrich did not intend to accept this offer. Several Republican Senators objected to the unanimous consent, and when Mr. Aldrich with some difficulty received recognition he explained that while he offered to vote on the House bill he had only asked the Democratic Senators if they would vote on the Senate bill. Further than that, he made the proposition to the Senate and to the Democratic caucus, which he intimated had been held in the Senate chamber, and that the Democratic proposition had been made. He was accused of backing down and quibbling, and Senator White, of California, intimated that he

had been "bluffing" and had been "called," and also said that the Senator from Rhode Island would probably understand the term. The Senate and spectators knew, and an audible demonstration followed the sally.

Mr. Aldrich evidently knew what was meant, and replied by saying that it was not common in places where the words were applicable to allow the adversary two hours to look over his hand before making the call.

and that was what the Democratic Senators had done.

If any one had, even for a moment, expected that a vote was possible, the expectations had now disappeared, as the combatants had reached the stage of the duel between Touchstone and his antagonist explained by Shakespeare's merry clown in the words:

"I durst go no further than the lie circumstantial, nor he durst give me the lie direct, and so we measured swords and parted."

Senator Teller stated his objections to a vote in vigorous terms, and in an allusion to the compromise tariff bill brought out a

Agitated, Senator Harris vociferated that any such bill was in existence. But the interest in the battle had disappeared, the bugles sounded a retreat, and the most dramatic incident of the Senate tariff debate closed.

several points which he hoped the Senator from Oregon would touch upon before concluding his speech. He sought to draw out Senator McPherson with a question, but the cross-firing was cut short by Senator Harris' motion to proceed to executive business.

There was a large representation from the various chapters of the District Epworth League at the mass-meeting held last evening in the auditorium of the North Capitol Methodist Episcopal church.

The service was opened with a song service by the choir, directed by Mr. J. W. Dyre, which was followed with an invocation by Rev. J. B. Stitt, D. D. Several five-minute addresses were made by Mr. C. M. Lacey Sites, president of the District League, "A Glance Backward;" Mr. J. A. Edgar, president of the Waugh chapter, "Epworth Socia-

ality;" Mr. George C. Hough, chairman of the Pittsburgh entertainment committee, "Epsworth Fraternity;" Miss Effie S. Perry, second vice president of the District league, "Mercy and Help;" Mr. J. E. Pugh, first vice president of the District league, "Spiritual Life;" Rev. L. B. Wilson, D. D., "A Practical Ministry;" and Mr. George W. Conner, in-

Two Little Locals.

A subcommittee of the House District Committee yesterday unanimously agreed to report the Washington, Alexandria and Mount Vernon railway bill with the amended route on Seventeenth and E streets northwest. This route has been indorsed by the District Commissioners and the board of trade. Work

was commenced last Thursday at Alexandria on the road to this city.

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**"Del Ray," on the P. R. R., One Mile This Side of Alexandria**

is rapidly assuming the appearance of a suburban town. Grading streets. Laying side-

walks, Planting trees, &c. Prices will be \$50, \$100, \$150 or 50 cents, \$1 and \$1.50 weekly. No interest, No notes, No taxes, but on the contrary we insure your life for amount of your purchase. Don't put it off, but go down and look at the property before opening day. Our representatives are on the ground at all times.

times, including Sunday. Call at our office for free transportation.