

## MR. REED'S IRON HAND.

### LIVELY DEBATE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Speaker Holds that Non-voting Members May Be Counted as "Present" for the Sake of a Quorum—His Decision Is Decided as Revolutionary by the Democrats and a Bitter Debate Ensues.

[Washington dispatch.]  
The expected battle in the House on Wednesday for the Smith-Jackson election cases from West Virginia was not contested on both sides. Mr. Crisp (Ga.) fired the first gun as soon as the case was called up by raising the question of consideration. On this vote the Democrats, with three exceptions (Messrs. Buckalew, Covert and Cowles), refrained from voting. While the clerk was calling the roll the Speaker was carefully noting the names of those Democrats who were present and not voting. Before the announcement of the vote Mr. Rogers (Ark.), who had inadvertently voted in the affirmative, decided to withdraw his vote, but he was met with a storm of objections from the Republican side. Mr. Rogers endeavored to secure a vote from the Speaker on the question in order that he might file an appeal, but the Speaker declined to rule. Mr. Covert (N. Y.) changed his vote from the negative to the affirmative. Mr. Rogers was then given permission to withdraw his vote, as was also Mr. Cowles (N. C.).

The vote was announced as standing—yeas, 101; nays, 2.

Mr. Crisp raised the point of no quorum.

The Speaker directed the Clerk to record the names of members present and not voting, as jotted down by the Speaker. This was the signal for a burst of applause from the Republicans and of jeers from the Democrats. When the name of Mr. Breckinridge (Ky.) was called, he stood up in the aisle, and, in a resounding voice, said:

"I deny the right of the Speaker to do this, and I denounce it as revolutionary."

During the remainder of the roll call the widest confusion prevailed, a dozen Democrats being on the floor at once denouncing the action of the Speaker. Mr. Bland (Mo.) roared out that he was responsible for his action only to his constituents and not to the Speaker, and Mr. O'Farrell (Va.) protested in the name of his State against this action. Mr. McCreary (Ky.) denied the right of the Speaker to count him as present.

The Speaker—The Chair is making a statement of fact that the gentleman is present. Does the gentleman deny that he is present?

Continuing, the Speaker said that the question was now before the House and the Chair proposed to give a statement, accompanied by a gaveling, to which an answer could be taken if any gentleman was satisfied with the ruling.

Mr. Crisp (in advance)—I enter an appeal.

The Speaker then proceeded to quote precedents in Democratic Legislatures for his action, reading in full a decision of Gov. Hill when President of the New York State Senate, but ignored Mr. Flower's request to have the Republican protest against that decision also read. The Speaker continued:

"But there is an entirely familiar process which every old member will recognize, whereby the opinion of the Chair is incontestable evidence of the recognition at all times of the right to require members present as constituting a quorum. Every member has been present on every-day occurrence at certain stages of the session for votes to be announced by the Chair containing obviously and emphatically no quorum. Yet, if the point was not made, the bill was always declared passed, and that could only be on a very distinct basis, and that was that everybody present silently agreed to the fact that there was a quorum. There was no ground on which by any possibility such a bill could be passed constitutionally unless the presence of a quorum was inferred, and it was inferred from the fact that no one had raised the question. All methods of determining the vote were of equal value, it has always been the practice of parliamentary bodies of this character, and especially in the Parliament of Great Britain, for the Speaker to determine the question if there was or was not a quorum present by count. It was because that was a determination of actual fact, and the determining of that was intrusted to the presiding officer in almost all instances. Again, there was a provision in the Constitution which declared that the House might establish rules for compelling the attendance of members. If members could be present and refuse to exercise their functions, and yet not be counted as a quorum, that provision would seem to be entirely nugatory. The Chair therefore ruled that no member was present within the meaning of the Constitution."

Mr. Crisp said that this was the first time in the history of the Government that the Speaker had decided that he could go behind the roll-call provided for by the Constitution. This was more than a mere question of rules. It was a constitutional right—the right to have the yeas and nays entered on the journal—and it necessarily followed that when the Constitution said that the yeas and nays should be so entered they could not be added to or taken from. He then quoted from Speaker Blaine's ruling on the roll-call to the effect that the Speaker had not the power to count a quorum, and declared that the decision just made by Speaker Reed would be the foundation of the greatest legislative frauds ever committed. He quoted Mr. Garfield as pronouncing a similar rule when it was proposed in his time, and as asking the question: "Who is to control the seeing of the Speaker?" and "How do we know that the Speaker may see forty members—for his own purpose—more than there are in the House?"

Mr. Crisp also quoted from the remarks of Mr. Reed (the present Speaker) in the same debate, when he used these words:

"The constitutional idea of a quorum is not the physical presence of a majority of the members of the House, but a majority of the members present and participating in the business of the House."

"I appeal," Mr. Crisp exclaimed, "from Philip drunk to Philip sober."

Mr. Cannon declared that the presence of the members not voting, but counted by the Chair, constituted more than a quorum. Gentlemen on the other side might rise and say that the action of the Chair was revolutionary. As they disagreed, they should consult the Constitution. The Constitution provided as follows:

"Each house shall be the judge of the election returns, and the qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business."

Did the Constitution say that a majority should be required to vote for a measure, a motion, or a resolution in order to pass it? Not at all. It merely said that a majority of each house should constitute a quorum to do business. Mr. Cannon laid down the proposition that, by general parliamentary law and under the Constitution, when a quorum is present and when that fact is ascertained, and when there is a majority voting in favor of a measure, that measure is adopted, whether it be motion, resolution, or law. He believed that thereby the Constitution was satisfied in form and substance, and that the people all over the country would justify that course.

Mr. Carlisle declared that every Speaker from the beginning of Congress had held that a majority must not only be present to constitute a quorum, but that a quorum must participate in the Constitution which provides for the election of a journal and for the entering upon it of the yeas and nays when demanded by one fifth of the members present, and also that section which says that less than a quorum can adjourn from day to day and can compel the attendance of absent members.

Now the Constitution contained Mr. Carlisle, did not say in express terms that in order to transact business a majority of the House should be present, but that a majority of the House should constitute a quorum "to do business," and then it proceeded to specify distinctly what those things were which a majority could do. When the framers of the Constitution provided that a majority of the members elect should constitute a quorum to do business they saw that if it stopped there less than a quorum could do certain things. If the ruling of the House was to do business, there was no necessity for any provision of the Constitution defining what less than a majority could do. He denied absolutely the right of the presiding officer of the House to make the ruling.

Suppose the Speaker was right; then one man could pass a bill as well as 100. If the Speaker had a right to make a journal and to make a quorum, and to have the Clerk of the House, under his direction, put upon the journal the fact that there was a quorum present, then there was no longer any use for the representatives of the people in the House. The Speaker was simply the organ of the House, not its master.

Mr. McKinley then took the floor, but yielded to a motion to adjourn, which was carried with division.

## AN ENTERPRISING CORPORATION.

"Has Agents Everywhere."

The Phenix of Brooklyn is one of the wonders of fire insurance, and one of the famous companies of the world. Its rapid rise in popular favor is without parallel. The familiar sign, "The Phenix of Brooklyn Has Agents Everywhere," while apparently exaggerated, is almost literally true, so far as the United States is concerned. Should the reader, no matter whom or where, wonder whether the company is represented in his place, he has only to make an inquiry "down-town" to be convinced. Its agents are workers. The Phenix moves, and this in part explains its success. Another explanation is that it is as prompt and active in the settlement of losses as in the pursuit of premiums.

The headquarters of the company's Western and Southern department are located in its own building at Chicago. In the West and South it does a business as large as, if not larger than, that of any other company. In farm insurance it leads. Last year, its premium receipts in this territory were over \$2,400,000. "Nothing succeeds like success." During 1889, this company materially strengthened its assets and net surplus, its funds now aggregating over \$4,780,000. The company was the first to pay a loss resulting from the Chicago fire. It paid \$425,000 to sufferers from that disaster and \$450,000 to Boston the year following.

Since its organization in 1853, the Phenix has paid losses representing nearly thirty-eight times its present cash capital, the total payments being \$37,720,621.60. The relief afforded by the redistribution of this vast amount among the people cannot be accurately determined.

It has supplemented credit, promoted trade, and fostered all industries.

Great numbers of commercial establishments have thus been enabled to substitute the new for the old, while a still greater number of private homes have been restored from their ashes and ruins.

### In Case of Fire.

Brownlow—Higgins, I wish you would go over to that inventor chap and tell him that the fire-escape he wanted me to try on the new building is no good, and he may as well come and take it away unless he can fix it.

Clerk—Yes, sir; I'll go over and tell him to make good his escape.—America.

### Copy of Original.

VAN WERT, Ohio, July 11, 1889.

Rheumatic Syrup Co., Jackson, Mich.  
GENTS—This is to certify that I had what is called sciatic rheumatism so badly that I was all drawn over to one side. My hip sank in so that you could lay your hand in the cavity, and I could do no work for over one year. I tried some of the best physicians and did almost everything I could hear or think of, and nothing did me any good until I purchased a bottle of Hibbard's Rheumatic Syrup of Hines & Son, druggists, Van Wert, O. Four bottles cured me and have never had it since.

ALBERT KING.

We certify to the above testimonial.

HINES & SON, Druggists.

THE cheapening of aluminum has led to a proposition to construct arc lamps of this material as preferable on account of lightness and qualities of resisting rust in comparison with iron, steel, or brass for outdoor use.

A FISH delicately flavored, and said by many to be equal to that of the salmon, is a great gray trout called tuladi, and is found in its perfection in Lake Temiscouta, Canada.

### Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury.

As Mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is tenfold the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine; it is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co.

As Sold by Druggists, price 75c per bottle.

BELTS are fashionable with women, but the only man to wear the belt is Sullivan.

### Hibbard's Rheumatic and Liver Pills.

These Pills are scientifically compounded, uniform in action. No gripping pain so commonly following the use of pills. They are adapted to both adults and children with perfect safety. We guarantee them to have no equal in the cure of *Sick Headache*, *Constipation*, *Dyspepsia*, *Biliousness*, and, as an appetizer, they excel any other preparation.

IT is the woman who loves to hear herself talk who ought to invest in a phonograph.—Texas Sifflings.

DOBINS' ELECTRIC SOAP is cheaper for you to use than any other soaps would be if given to you, for by its use clothes are saved. Clothes cost more than soap. Ask for Dobins'. Take no other.

SALT LAKE Mormons consider their church a hier-archy, than the United States Government.

SUDDEN CHANGES OF WEATHER cause Throat Diseases. There is no more effectual remedy for Coughs, Colds, etc., than BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES. Sold only in boxes. Price 25c each.

THE only walking match Paris has known for some time is Bernhardt.

## What It Costs

Must be carefully considered by the great majority of people before buying an article which seems absolutely necessary. Hood's Sarsaparilla commends itself with special force to the great middle classes, because it combines positive economy with great medicinal power. It is the only medicine of which can truly be said "100 Doses One Dollar," and a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla taken according to directions will average to last a month, while other medicines last but half or quarter as long. Try Hood's Sarsaparilla and see for yourself.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists, \$1; six for \$5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

## Progress.

It is very important in this age of vast material progress that a remedy be pleasing to the taste and to the eye, easily taken, acceptable to the stomach and healthy in its nature and effects. Possessing these qualities, Syrup of Flax is the one perfect laxative and most gentle diuretic known.

ACCORDING to a recent paper read before the French Academy of Sciences the temperature at the top of the Eiffel Tower is frequently much higher than at the ground, though the contrary as a rule is to be expected.

### The Remedy for the Influenza.

A remedy recommended for patients afflicted with the influenza is Kemp's Balsam, the specific for coughs and colds, which is especially adapted to diseases of the throat and lungs. Do not wait for the first symptoms of the disease, before securing the remedy, but get a bottle and keep it on hand for use the moment it is needed. If neglected the influenza has a tendency to bring on pneumonia. All druggists sell the Balsam.

A THRIFTY Ohio girl sold a batch of old love letters to the ragman last week. She realized 30 cents, which, she declares, is a good deal more than they were worth.

### How to Buy Buggies.

The correct way to buy goods of any kind is from the manufacturer when possible. For sixteen years the Elkhart Carriage and Harness Manufacturing Company, of Elkhart, Ind., have sold direct to the consumer at wholesale prices, saving their customers the middleman's profit. As they ship anywhere, with privilege to examine before paying, and pay all charges if not satisfactory, the buyer runs no risk. See their advertisement, and send for catalogue.

FLORENCE, Ala.

The personally conducted excursions to this rapidly growing city have been so successful that the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad (Evansville Route) will run one on each of the following dates: Feb. 4, 11, 18, and 25. For copy of "Alabama as It Is" and further information, send to William Hill, Gen. Pass Agent, Chicago, Ill.

A 10c. Cigar in quality, but only a 5c. cigar in price, is "Tansill's Punch."

THE best cough medicine is Piso's Cure for Consumption. Sold everywhere. 25c.

## THE OLD ENEMY.

It is known as a painful inflammation affecting the muscles and joints of the human body, the symptoms of which are swelling of the joints, acute pains and aches. St. Jacobs Oil cures promptly and permanently this enemy which is:

### RHEUMATISM.

Sandyville, Ohio, June 18, 1888.

Was taken with rheumatism in 1863; suffered at times ever since and used crutches. St. Jacobs Oil relieved me about two years ago.

GEO. L. NIXON.

AT DRUGGISTS AND DEALERS.

THE CHARLES A. VOGELER CO., Baltimore, Md.

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Habit. The only certain and easy cure. Dr. J. L. Stephens, Lebanon, Ohio.

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