

USED AS A FOIL

Spooner Bill Brought Up to Siderack Canal Measure.

MORGAN SAYS IT WILL NOT PASS

Great Power Placed in Hands of President-Talbert Unsettles Alleged Pension Scandal.

WASHINGTON, May 25.—Discussion of the Spooner Philippine bill was continued in the Senate today by Morgan. On the general question of the ownership and government by the United States of the Philippine Islands, he was in accord with Spooner and Lodge, but he regarded the pending bill as unwise and dangerous legislation because of the great power it placed in the hands of the President. He was satisfied, however, that the measure would not be passed by this Congress, and he declared that it was being used as a foil to thrust aside the Nicaragua Canal bill. Much of his speech was devoted to the canal bill, and to denunciation of the efforts to prevent its enactment at this session.

The House devoted two hours today to the consideration of the Spooner bill. The session from noon until adjournment was devoted under the rule to private pension bills. Talbert, who abandoned his obstructive tactics a few weeks ago, was again in evidence today. After 190 bills had been favorably acted upon the House in committee of the whole, Talbert blocked their passage in the House with the point of a quorum.

Among the bills favorably acted upon today were the Senate bill to pension the widow of the late Captain Gridley, who commanded an officer in the battle of Manila, to \$50 per month; the widow of the late Commodore W. S. Meade at \$40 per month, and the widow of the late General M. F. Force, of Ohio, at \$50 per month.

THE DAY IN DETAIL

Morgan Continues the Philippine Debate in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, May 25.—The Senate today continued the debate on the Spooner bill. Morgan presented the conference report on a bill granting to Mrs. Guy V. Henry, the widow of General Henry, a pension. The conference report was adopted, and the pension from \$100 to \$125 a month. The report was agreed to.

Carter (Rep. Mont.) presented the certificate of Governor Smith appointing Hon. Martin Maginnis Senator to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Senator Clark, and to which Clark also had been appointed by Lieutenant-Governor Spriggs, in the absence of the Governor. This certificate was in practically the same words as Acting Governor Spriggs' certificate appointing Clark to succeed himself in accordance with a request made by Senator Carter, the certificate was read upon the table.

As soon as this disposition was made, Chandler (Rep. N. H.) presented a resolution providing for the reference of the credentials of the Senators-elect to a committee on privileges and elections. This resolution was also on the table, the understanding being that it will be called up next Wednesday.

Morgan (Dem. Cal.) introduced a bill to punish crimes against the United States not committed within the States. He said the bill seemed to unlock the difficulty of the Government in its power to extradite the criminals of an alien nation to the United States to Cuba. The bill was referred to the judiciary committee.

The Philippine bill was then taken up, and Morgan addressed himself to it. He agreed with Lodge (Rep. Mass.) and Spooner (Rep. Wis.) on many phases of their contention as to the Philippines, but as to the pending bill, he differed from them on some Constitutional points, and as to the necessity for, and wisdom of, the enactment of the measure. He agreed that the Philippines were ours, and that the title of Aguinaldo was in violation of the islands under the treaty of Paris was clear and beyond any question.

Morgan declared no promises had ever been made by our military and naval commanders to Aguinaldo before the commencement. In fact, no such government existed in the Philippines when Dewey arrived there and took Manila. At that time Aguinaldo was in Singapore, enjoying the pay for his bid for independence from the Spaniards. He denounced Aguinaldo as a political adventurer and traitor, and asserted that "we would have done better to give the nations of the earth had we yielded to the demand of Aguinaldo and his followers to loot the islands, and especially Manila."

Discussing the ratification of the treaty of Paris, Morgan said: "I was in favor of the ratification of the treaty of Paris, and still adhere to that conviction of duty. I believe it is the most advantageous treaty that our country has ever made with Mexico, that the United States has made in the 19th century. I am proud of the motives and the herculean efforts of our Army and Navy that forced this treaty for an arbitrary, cruel, Spanish-Bourbon despotism and again opened the way for our republican institutions. I welcome the most open to the people of this country, especially in their honorable struggle to repair the losses and humiliation of the war between the states, and I stand here today as a supporter of the men for leading us in this course of National duty to a glorious result."

"I am proud that our distinguished party leader, Mr. Bryan, came to Washington to denounce the Democracy of the Senate to ratify the treaty of Paris and bid us not to stultify ourselves with needless fears, because its ratification would open the door to another opportunity to test the courage and sincerity of the grand Democracy."

Morgan attacked the bill as concentrating all the power over the Philippines in the hands of the President. He said he was legalizing absolutism and took away from the Senate the power to confirm the appointments of the President.

Morgan made a long argument in support of the Nicaragua Canal as doubly necessary, now we were in the Philippines. He declared there was even now a revolution in the State of Panama, which was being fomented, incited and aided by various canal companies, which had propositions before the United States for its consideration. Referring to the suggestions that had been made to this Government by these canal companies, he inquired: "I'd like to know how much of this kind of insolence the Senate can stand without having the Democracy of the Senate."

He bitterly denounced the syndicates which had been organized under New York and New Jersey laws "for the purpose of controlling canal routes on the isthmus of Darien."

"It is an outrage on all public decency," he urged, "an open violation of the criminal laws of the United States. While I stand here to rebuke it, the railroad opposing the canal are today, by a conspiracy and combination, compelling the people to pay full rates charged at the pleasure of this great combination, by which their industry is suffering to an extent indescribable, and which nobody has yet even attempted to estimate."

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Another matter which is discussed in official circles with interest, and which is the Dutch responsibilities. South Africans are not agreed upon the financial aspects of the problem and upon the most practical method of distributing the burden of a costly war on the basis of population. Land taxes levied upon the Boers will yield little when they are impoverished, and the only adequate resource for the payment of the war debt is the mining territory of the Rand.

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