

GERSTENBERG

House Hears Debate on New York Election.

ADAMS IS THE ACCUSER

Free Rum and Free Immorality Brought Victory.

HOT REPLY BY FITZGERALD

Declares the Statement an Infamous Slander—Heppburn Expresses His Opposition to Civil Service System as it Now Exists.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—The House today for more than five hours considered the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, but reached no conclusions on it. A variety of topics, including Panama and the tariff, were discussed during the course of the day.

When the item in the bill providing for the expenses of the Civil Service Commission was reached, Hepburn (Pa.) took occasion to express his opposition to the civil service system as it now exists and expressed a desire to amend the bill by striking out the paragraph providing for the existence of the commission.

When the House met today the speaker announced the following request for the Smithsonian Institution: Hill (Ill.), Adams (Pa.) and Dinsmore (Dem. Ark.).

Bingham (Pa.), from the committee on appropriations called up the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, when the House went into committee of the whole.

Underwood (Dem., Ala.) spoke for an hour, taking the tariff as his subject, contending that the "stand-pa" policy of the Republican party does not protect the American laborer, saying that the American manufacturer was outstripping the European manufacturer.

Adams (Pa.) said he was surprised at the criticisms made by Mr. Olney at the dinner recently given in New York in the matter of the Republic of Panama.

"I wish to state for the benefit of those who are about to cast their ballots that the free license of rum and immorality is the National privilege that will appeal to the people of the country, but not in the way that they expected."

Hepburn (Pa.), interrupting, read the declaration of the Democratic platform of 1860, on which Buchanan was elected President, regarding the power of the United States to build the Isthmian Canal without regard to another power.

Livingston (Dem., Ga.) asked Hepburn what this had to do with the method by which President Roosevelt secured a treaty with Panama to construct the canal.

Hepburn replied: "Why, from the declaration of the Democratic party that they have the right to determine the method; that they have the right to move out of order anybody that attempted to interfere with the exercise of the preponderating interest."

"To Defense of New York." Fitzgerald (Dem., N. Y.), replying to Adams, said: "Mr. Chairman, it is unfortunate that the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Adams) did not confine his discussion to questions of great National importance, which he treated with such fluency and equal inaccuracy."

"Proceeding, Fitzgerald said: "I desire to resent the infamous slander upon decent people, something which should not be uttered in the House," adding, "It would be carrying coals to Newcastle to suggest that in the gentleman's own city those who favored free rum and free immorality who desired to, and who maintain how the most corrupt government in this country, put into office officials who catered to that class of people."

"The recent election in New York City was won by the Democrats," he said, "because we presented a man against whom not a single word could be said as either his public or private character." Continuing, Fitzgerald said:

"There was also another reason for the success of the Democratic party in New York City. The decent people of the city were outraged by some of the infamous practices of the Low administration with the public money of the City of New York. They gave it to their police officers and sent them searching the poor unfortunate on the streets of the city; they used the public money to debauch those women and bring them to court and prosecuted them for violation of the statutes."

Baker (Dem., N. Y.) read a newspaper article saying soup houses were being established in Cincinnati by a ward boss.

Grosvener (Ohio) said he recalled that the participation of the gentleman from New York in a campaign in Ohio has resulted in an increased Republican majority. He said also that he would venture the assertion that they were twice as many men employed in manufacturing in Cincinnati as there were the day McKinley was elected.

When the paragraph in the bill appropriating money for the expenses of the Civil Service Commission was reached, Hepburn said, said laughter: "Has the gentleman (Bingham) any estimate or idea of the pecuniary benefit to the United States that results

from the existing Civil Service Commission?" Continuing, he said if he had the opportunity he would vote against the civil service as it exists today. He then added: "I would like to move, Mr. Chairman, to strike out this paragraph, though I know no result will follow even the adoption of this motion. I know that the bill will come back to us with it reinstated. I know that we would have to pay the salaries, but I believe it is the deliberate judgment of every member of this House, save perhaps a score, that we are wasting the public money, and that we are in pursuit of a phantom when we attempt to improve the civil service through the instrumentality of that which we call the Civil Service Commission."

He added that he believed it to be the judgment of every man that has given serious attention to it, who is really familiar with the legislation and the operation of this system of so-called improvement, that it is a failure.

"The committee on civil service reform has never dared to come to this House with any proposition that could give the public an opportunity to express itself upon this question, so there is no way in which we can under consideration when the Senate adjourns. The discussion arose over a resolution looking to the arbitration of Colombia's claims on account of the Panama revolution. It was introduced early in the day by Bacon, and was met promptly by a motion on the part of Lodge to table it. This motion aroused the feeling of Senators on the Democratic side, who construed it as intending to cut off debate, and said they would debate the Panama question on some other resolution if not on this. Finally, Lodge consented to withhold his motion, and discussion proceeded throughout the day with the understanding that it should be renewed again tomorrow.

Republican Senators, in their speeches, referred to the resolution as a confession of wrongdoing on the part of the United States and expressed the opinion that any agitation of the question at this time would give undue encouragement to the people of Colombia and misrepresent the attitude of this country. Bacon disavowed any such intention, and said he accepted the resolution as an accomplished fact. A ready response to this pronouncement came from Hale, and during the course of the debate he and Bacon mutually agreed on a declaration which Hale intimated he would offer tomorrow in the Senate. Other Republican Senators indicated an unwillingness to accept any measure looking to an interference with the negotiations, while the Democratic Senators also intimated objections on other grounds.

The speakers of the day were Bacon, Spooner, Teller, Carmack, Lodge, Aldrich, Platt (Conn.), and Foraker, the secretary of the Senate. At the beginning of today's session the Senate adopted a joint resolution authorizing the erection of a statue to the late President Benjamin Harrison, near the Postoffice building in Indianapolis. The statue is to be erected by the Benjamin Harrison Memorial Association.

Bacon introduced a resolution authorizing the President to negotiate a treaty with Colombia looking to an amicable adjustment of differences growing out of the secession of Panama. He gave notice of his intention to present a resolution to the committee on foreign relations, but before doing so addressed the Senate on the subject. He said he regarded the situation as critical, and had read a paper by the Hon. Charles Smythe, stating that the Colombians are greatly aroused, and feel the honor of their country demands that they should go to war.

He moved the reference of the resolution to the committee on foreign relations, and Lodge moved to lay the motion on the table in doing so, the Massachusetts Senator intimated that agitation of the question would be most injurious at the present time because, he said, the President is now, through the Secretary of State, negotiating with General Reyes concerning all the points at issue in Panama.

Lodge's motion to lay on the table brought a number of Democratic Senators to the floor, including Bacon, Teller and Daniel. Daniel declared the motion to be unreasonable, and Teller said it was unusual and extreme, both saying the motion to lay on the table would cut off debate.

Lodge then said he would temporarily withhold his motion in order to allow Senators to speak. He said he personally knew nothing of the construction of the building, save what knowledge he had obtained from an inspector. This inspector did not report to him personally. He admitted he allowed the builders to place pine joists in certain places beneath the stage, instead of steel supports, as called for by the building ordinances. This was done to facilitate the working of trap-doors.

Commissioner Williams admitted that his department had passed on the arrangement of exits, passageways and aisles; that the department knew the ordinance required an exit to be plainly marked by a sign, and that appliances for the extinguishment of fire be placed in theaters, and then said the officers had never been informed by the inspectors that none of these requirements had been fully met, and he did not know before the theater burned whether they had been complied with. He declared that Inspector Laughlin of his department, had reported the theater as being in proper shape.

When asked by the Coroner who assumed the responsibility, he admitted that he, as head of the department, would be compelled to assume it. Neither he nor any member of his department, so far as he knew, had any knowledge as to whether automatic sprinklers had been placed in the theater.

Coroner Traeger demanded to know if there was anybody in the office of the Building Commissioner whose business it was to see whether the inspectors did their duty. Mr. Williams replied: "Once in a while I have done so."

Williams declared that last October he reported to Mayor Harrison that not one of the theaters in Chicago was complying with the ordinances. The Mayor turned over his report to the Council, which has never referred to a committee, and nothing was done.

"Were the orders given to prevent war between the Republic of Colombia and the insurgents?" Carmack asked. "Not at all," replied Foraker. "The order was to keep the transit free. Colombia could have landed her troops elsewhere in Panama if she had been so disposed."

Daniel asked if Colombia were not obligated to protect the transit. "But Colombia was not protecting the transit," said Foraker. "She was coming to the isthmus to make war."

Foraker declared that there was such resolutions as had been offered here that had created a sentiment for bloodshed.

Bacon then expressed a willingness to allow the question to go over to tomorrow, and Lodge said he was willing to allow that course, but would tomorrow renew his motion to lay on the table. He said he did not desire to suppress debate.

He said that since 1846 this Government has continued uninterruptedly to protect the transit across the Isthmus. He challenged the Democrats to point out in what particular the administration had created a wrong under the treaty of 1846.

Daniel signified his willingness to accept Foraker's change to point out wherein the administration had overstepped its authority on the isthmus under the treaty of 1846. He said the policy of this Government had been contrary to historical precedents of the United States; that this resolution never would be accepted by the forces of a friendly power in defending itself against armed insurgents.

Lodge cited precedents to show that in 1800, 1801 and 1802 the United States had followed the same policy as at present, and that troops had been sent to Panama to prevent attacks on either side and to maintain free transit and protect American interests.

Spencer said he did not doubt the patriotism of Bacon or of other Senators, but he considered the Bacon resolution pregnant with possibilities of danger, and in no wise calculated to do good.

He considered that the troops of the United States were where they ought to be, and where they should have been, even if there was no treaty. It was the duty of the government of Colombia, under her guarantee, to have foreseen and prepared against insurrection. But when Colombia failed, it was the duty of the United States to protect the transit.

"God knows," he said, "if ever there were a people entitled to protection from

PANAMA TALK WARM.

Democrats Deem Motion Intended to End Debate.

SENATE GIVES DAY TO IT

Discussion Arises Over a Resolution Looking to the Arbitration of Colombia's Claims on Account of the Panama Revolution.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—For over five hours today the Senate debated the Panama question, and it was still under consideration when the Senate adjourned. The discussion arose over a resolution looking to the arbitration of Colombia's claims on account of the Panama revolution. It was introduced early in the day by Bacon, and was met promptly by a motion on the part of Lodge to table it. This motion aroused the feeling of Senators on the Democratic side, who construed it as intending to cut off debate, and said they would debate the Panama question on some other resolution if not on this. Finally, Lodge consented to withhold his motion, and discussion proceeded throughout the day with the understanding that it should be renewed again tomorrow.

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neglect, extortion and tyranny they were the Panamas, if that is the right word. "Panamanians," suggested Morgan.

Teller expressed his opinion that the resolution in the Bacon resolution was perfectly proper. It was only a suggestion, and all must admit the right of the Senate to make such a suggestion.

Takes Issue With Spooner. Teller took issue with Spooner on his position that our intention in the Panama affair was not an act of war, and said if it was not such an act this circumstance was due to Colombia's feebleness.

long debate over cloture followed, during which Aldrich expressed the opinion that the peculiar conditions at present existing call for prompt action. He based his argument on the ground that the resolution would result in a misunderstanding in Colombia.

"We here know that the resolution will be defeated," he said, "but the people do not know that to be true, and it may be the result of raising a false hope in that country."

Bacon said the resolution was calculated to induce peace and not war.

Platt (Conn.) asked Bacon if he believed Colombia would go to war with the United States, and Bacon replied: "Colombia would make war upon Panama to recover its territory, and that, under the circumstances, war upon Panama would amount to war upon the United States."

Interrupting Bacon, Hale said he would be in favor of voting liberal compensation to Colombia.

Hale again declared his willingness to accept the resolution, and said the facts without prejudice and looking to an agreement with Colombia for compensation for the loss of territory with an understanding that the treaty should be ratified.

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SENSATIONAL GOLD STRIKE.

Colorado Ore Goes \$23,000 to the Ton and Appears Prolifant.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., Jan. 12.—The most sensational gold strike in the Cripple Creek district for years has been made on Iron clad Hill. From a space no larger than a man's body one ton of \$23,000 was shipped today, some of which assayed \$21,000 a ton. The strike has caused great activity in the northern portion of the district.

DAY TURNED INTO NIGHT.

Chicago Finds Itself in Complete Darkness for an Hour.

CHICAGO, Jan. 12.—Hundreds of passengers on incoming trains here were startled by a sudden plunge into midnight darkness. The transition from broad daylight seemed immediate and complete as if by a magic wand. The darkness extended in a circle from the center of the city, the radius being several minutes. The duration was over an hour. Unusual atmospheric conditions, brought about by smoke generally accepted as the cause.

CAUSE OF THE WAR OF WORDS

Resolution by Bacon for Arbitration of Colombia's Claims.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—Following is the full text of the resolution introduced in the Senate today by Bacon: "Resolved by the Senate, That the President be respectfully informed that the Senate favors and advises the negotiations with a view to its ratification, of a treaty with the Republic of Colombia, the end of which shall be peaceably and satisfactorily determined and adjusted all differences between the United States and the Republic of Colombia growing out of the recent

resolutions indorsing the National Irrigation Congress, and advocating the repeal of the desert land act, the commutation clause of the homestead act and the timber and stone act. House Takes Foraker to Task. HAVANA, Jan. 12.—The House today passed a resolution protesting against the statement alleged to have been made by Foraker in the United States Senate during the discussion of the case of Brigadier-General Wood to the effect that young women of immoral character were employed as teachers in the Cuban schools during the intervention government.