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POLITICAL.

BOURBON NONSENSE BY MORGAN AND BROWN.

THE ALABAMA SENATOR ON THE HARMONY OF THE COUNTRY—MR. BROWN ON THE NEGROES' CHANCES FOR OFFICE—MR. HOAR TELLS WHAT AN ADVANCED POSITION IS.

OUR SENATE REPORT.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—The Vice-President laid before the senate the unfinished business, being the resolution for the election of officers of the senate. Owing to the fact that there was evidently no quorum present, Mr. Pendleton refrained from making his usual motion to go into executive session. After a few moments, however, Mr. Davis, of West Virginia, said that with the consent of the senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Dawes) he would submit that motion. Mr. Dawes replied that he would prefer to take a vote on the resolution; to which Mr. Davis rejoined by stating that if he waited for that he would wait until his hair was grayer than it was now. Mr. Dawes expressed his regret at hearing such an unpatriotic remark. The motion to go into executive session was lost—yeas, 20; nays, 21.

Morgan's Weak Speech.
Morgan then took the floor and delivered an exceedingly weak speech for three hours. He referred, in closing, to the senate as sitting here like a great debating committee, while the states were acting entirely in harmony with each other. He did not know a state which had any quarrel with another. These facts were a reproach to the United States senate to-day, and a deadly reproach to those men who made it their business to get up and undertake to create excitement against communities which were laboring to do their duty. Thank God that the influence of the senate was not yet powerful enough to disturb the harmony of the people of the country.

Mr. Brown Explains.

Mr. Brown next took the floor. At the close of the war he had, he said, taken position for the absolute acquiescence in the reconstruction measures, and after the adoption of the fifteenth amendment he had stood in favor of a free ballot and a fair count. Today the democrats of Georgia stood fairly and squarely on that doctrine and practiced it. The fifteenth amendment was acknowledged to be binding, and it was being faithfully carried out. There had, at the close of the war, been outrages. He admitted it. Now there was as free and fair a ballot in Georgia as any state in the Union. The laws were executed and the ku-klux had been disposed of. He proceeded to criticize the republican party for their injustice towards the colored race. If all the negroes, were, as they claimed, republicans, they constitute one-fourth of the republican party. What had that party done for them? The last administration had given Fred Douglass the position of marshal of the district of Columbia; but he had not been invited to do all the honors at the White-house which had usually been performed by the marshal. There were seven cabinet ministers, and yet not one of them represented the race which composed one-fourth of the republican party. Republicans need not be astonished if when the democrats meet in grand council again they should do right to the negro, as the republicans had failed to do so.

Democratic Opinion.

That was his opinion; that was his advance line, and he was a democrat right on that line. He would not do it for a party purpose; he would advocate it because it was right. Referring to the remarks made by several republican senators that they desired to break up the solid south, he asserted that it could never be broken by any attempt to republicanize it. When the north was no longer solid, when no more was heard about republicanizing the southern states, the south would cease to be solid. Let an issue be presented, such as the tariff or the currency, and the

south would decide as soon as the north would, and without regard to color lines. A word in regard to the strange state of things in Virginia. The republican party sought to take advantage of the division on the debt question and carry a portion of the democracy of that state into the republican camp. The democrats proper, the intelligent class of the people of that state, had stood manfully up there for maintaining the credit of the old state; but they would understand the republican party as tendering this issue to them, that it was intended to take hold of the readjuster element and put the negroes and readjusters in power. They might find it necessary then to drop their internal strife and tumble over \$12,000,000 of the state debt, and, if necessary to the reunion of society, they might tumble over \$12,000,000 more of it, or let the whole of it go; rather than have ruin brought upon the state by putting it under the control of people the majority of whom would not be allowed to vote in Massachusetts. The war had ceased. The bloody shirt had been buried by the republican party when that party had taken the senator from Virginia, a confederate brigadier, for its leader; and with that act before the people they would not enter into another crusade to establish republican power in the south. The south intended to become the equal of the north in wealth and intelligence. Then it would be respected.

Mr. Hoar's Reply.

Mr. Hoar replied to Mr. Brown's speech. That gentleman had said that he, upon his election to the senate, had taken an advanced position. An advanced position on what? On the subject of obeying the constitution, which every public officer in the southern states had taken his oath to support. That was a commentary on the statement that there was a free vote in the south. The gentleman had threatened that if the republican party persisted, by sympathy and encouragement, in aiding the assertion of the right of the majority to rule in Virginia, the democrats would be driven to ally themselves with those persons who desired to repudiate the whole of the debt of that state. Mr. Hoar desired that the people should take note of that statement. Thus democratic virtue proposed to take this leprosy to its embrace if the republican party did not cease sympathizing with a free ballot and a fair count.

Brown on Scripture.

Mr. Brown suggested that in Massachusetts the class of people in whose control it was proposed to place Virginia would not be allowed to vote. While the senators from Massachusetts lectured everybody else on the subject of suffrage and the right to vote, they do not practice it in their own states. The senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Hoar) had been fond of quoting: "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisee, which is hypocrisy." A Pharisee, he believed, was a man who preached one thing and practiced another, and thanked God that he was not as other men, believing he was better than other men. He would not apply the quotation to the senator, but he gave the quotation: "Woe unto your Pharisees' hypocrisy." A railing and good-humored discussion ensued between Messrs. Hoar and Brown, which was kept up until Mr. Brown, misunderstanding a statement made by Mr. Hoar, and misquoting it, was excitedly interrogated by Mr. Hoar as to whether he implied that he (Mr. Hoar) had said what was not true. Mr. Brown denied any intention of mistating the senator's remark, and good humor was restored by Mr. Beck's stimulated fear that the senator would lose both the senators from Georgia. Mr. Hawley replied to some remarks in Mr. Brown's speech relative to Connecticut, defending the suffrage laws of that state, and asserting that no man there was compelled to vote except as his conscience dictated. The senate then (at quarter past six), after some opposition from the democratic side, adjourned until Monday.

WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

THE COURTESY OF THE SENATE—BLAINE, WINDOM, KIRKWOOD.

THE SENATE NOT FIGHTING THE EXECUTIVE.

OUR ASTORIAN.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—There is a foundation in reason and decency for the "courtesy of the senate" in the various forms in which it prevails. For example, if a Senator is nominated to an office by the President he is at once confirmed without reference to a committee, on the ground that he is already known to the senate, and that no question can properly be raised as to a member of the body. This is a courtesy of the senate. Under it Messrs. Blaine, Windom, and Kirkwood were confirmed. Had either of them resigned before being nominated he could have been subjected to whatever opposition senators chose to make without any violation of the courtesy of the senate. In the matter of nominations within a state the courtesy of the senate assumes that if the two senators of that state say they are informed in regard to any given nomination they are to be believed over and above all other informants, save only, probably, in a case where the President's own state is involved.

No Senator Can Vote Intelligently.

On any nomination until he has some information from a reliable source. Of course the fact that the President has made a nomination is *prima facie* evidence of its fitness. But if the President's judgment ought to be conclusive upon the subject the constitution would not have provided for any reference of it to the senate. That instrument provides that the President "shall nominate and by and with the advice of the senate shall appoint," etc. By sending to the senate any nomination the President virtually says: "Senators how do you think this man will do for the place to be filled?" or, "do you think such and such an incumbent ought to be removed and Mr. So-and-so appointed in his place?" This devolves upon the senate the duty of discussing the matter. The first question naturally arising is: Who knows the nominee? Being from one of the states, the Senators from that state are appealed to. They are presumed to be

Truthful and Respectable Men.

So runs "the courtesy of the senate." If both agree the other senators believe them, and act accordingly. If the two senators differ, then each senator judges for himself which is correct. Who better than Messrs. Dawes and Hoar could satisfy senators as to the fitness of a Massachusetts nomination? And so of Edmunds and Morrill for Vermont, Platt and Hawley for Connecticut, Hale and Frye for Maine, and so on to the end. Whenever both senators from a state approve or oppose a nomination "the courtesy of the senate" treats their opinions with respect and follows their advice. It is common to extend this courtesy to the opposition senators to the extent of treating with great consideration their opposition to a nominee on account of unfitness or any other than political objections. The "courtesy of the senate" is simply the faith reposed by senators in each other in matters whereof all cannot be equally well informed. The senate does not "fight" the Executive when it says to him: "We do not think this man had better be appointed;" or, "No; we advise you to

Make no Removal at Present.

I have alluded to this subject to call attention to the simplicity of it. Great and influential journals are discussing the senate as a tyrannical and usurping body because it does not abdicate its duty by blindly and indiscriminately advising and consenting to all executive nominations. The present executive is too well versed in public affairs to accept the interpretation put upon senatorial independence by the claqueurs of men who may, by hook or crook, succeed in securing his nomination. He is too well schooled in the claims and rights of the house and senate to desire to be a dictator to either as to the duties imposed upon them by the constitution. What I have here said refers to the general usage and rule of the senate, and has no special application to any particular case. Do not, in a jealous rage, misunderstand that.

CAPITOL GUSH.

THE SOURCE FROM WHENCE IT COMES.

AN ENTERPRISING STEWARD OF A DEMOCRATIC SECRETARY.

It has been a sort of surprise to us, when reading the Washington gush in press dispatches, and a wonder as to from what source it could have all originated. The National Republican explains it thus:

We find on the pay-roll of the senate the name of a certain very respectable young man as a laborer, at a compensation of \$720 per annum. He is in the department of the secretary of the senate. In addition to the labor over which he tugs and perspires in the office of secretary Burch, he finds time to aid in the conduct of our enterprising and vivacious neighbor, the Evening Star. Most of the twinkles of that luminary which tells us of the doings at the capitol are said to be furnished by the laborer in question. He is a very previous sort of person, and if the republicans who are shaking up his \$720 nest do not seem to him to be diligent enough in surrendering to the democratic minority, he calls republican caucuses (in the Star), and in these caucuses the democratic wish will (in the Star) be gratified; and the republican senators will go into executive session (in the Star), and will do various things in the exact order marked out for them by this overworked democratic laborer in Secretary Burch's office. The laborer always carries things his way in the caucuses held by the republican senators (in the Star). Last evening the Star said: "A caucus of the republican senators has been called"—but it was utterly untrue. No caucus had been called. He goes on to say: "The caucus will, so republicans say, discuss the situation, giving due consideration to the pending nominations and importance of confirming some of the nominees." But how can the caucus discuss the situation when there is no caucus called? Then the toiler goes on to detail most minutely how the senate will proceed (in the Star) in the executive session, which is to be agreed on in the caucus (in the Star) which is not to be held (in the senate). We congratulate the Star and its readers on its superior facilities for obtaining inside information concerning the purposes of the republican side from the enterprising stipendiary of a democratic senate official.

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