

Mr. BECK. I object to the adoption of that resolution at this time, but I do not object to its reference.

Mr. POTTER. I suggest that the resolution be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. They have already before them the same subject under a previous resolution of the House.

Mr. COX. I object to referring any resolution to that committee. They never report. They never yet have reported in reference to Louisiana. Let the Executive take care of Arkansas.

Mr. BECK. Let it be referred.

Mr. HYNES. It is merely a resolution of inquiry, to ascertain what is the condition of affairs in the State of Arkansas.

Mr. POLAND. I do not object to the reference if the Committee on the Judiciary can have leave to report at any time. I make that request.

Mr. COX. I object to any such reference. That committee never does report anything.

Mr. POTTER. We never get a chance to report.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Vermont asks leave to report at any time, and the gentleman from New York objects to granting leave.

JOAB SPENSER AND JAMES R. MEAD.

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States:

The Clerk read as follows:

To the House of Representatives:

I return herewith without my signature House bill No. 1331 entitled "An act for the relief of Joab Spenser and James R. Mead for supplies furnished the Kansas tribe of Indians." I withheld my approval of said bill for reasons which satisfy me the claim should not be allowed for the entire amount stated in the bill, and which are set forth in the letter of the Secretary of the Interior of the 7th instant, a copy of which, with the accompanying papers, is herewith transmitted.

U. S. GRANT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
Washington, May 12, 1874.

Mr. HOLMAN. I ask that the letter accompanying the message of the President be read to the House.

The SPEAKER. It is very lengthy.

Mr. HOLMAN. Then I ask that the accompanying papers be printed.

The SPEAKER. The question is whether it belongs to the Committee on Indian Affairs or the Committee on Claims.

Mr. COBB, of Kansas. It is a bill reported I think by my colleague [Mr. LOWE] from the Committee on Indian Affairs.

The message and accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

CIRCULATING NOTES.

The SPEAKER also, by unanimous consent, laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, in answer to a resolution of the House of April 25, 1874, in relation to how much of the \$54,000,000 in notes for circulation has been issued under the act of July 12, 1870; which, on motion of Mr. MERRIAM, was referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency, and ordered to be printed.

HEIRS OF WILLIAM MORRISON.

The SPEAKER also, by unanimous consent, laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of War, in relation to the claim of the heirs of William Morrison for damage done to property by the firing of experimental guns; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, and ordered to be printed.

NAVY-YARDS ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

Mr. SHANKS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to present the proceedings of a mass meeting of the working people of the State of Indiana, held at Indianapolis, April 23, 1874, in relation to the establishment of navy-yards upon the Mississippi River; and I move that they be referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. SHANKS. I ask, by unanimous consent, the proceedings be published in the Record. They are not long.

There was no objection.

The proceedings were as follows:

Whereas the report of the Naval Committee of the House of Representatives made to that body on the 2d instant, and its accompanying papers, show that the chief cause of distress to the working people, both mechanic and agricultural, is due to the loss of carrying trade in American ships on the ocean, and that carrying trade can only be reinstated by the means of building better ships than our competitors; that these means are in the establishment of iron ship-building works upon the Atlantic coast, and upon the Mississippi River, or one of its tributaries, and that "the creation of these yards will give to the United States—as similar creations have given to Great Britain—prosperity to its manufacturing and mechanic industries, the broadest and most economical means of cheap transportation for the productions of the farmer and planter, and secure constant employment to labor at remunerative wages." And that said committee present the proposals of the International Steamship Company to create these yards without subsidy or money aid from the Government, and upon condition that Congress shall create a trust into which the said company shall pay 5 per cent. annually upon the work done, to form a sinking fund which cannot be deviated from in the payment of interest upon its bonds, or their final liquidation; and whereas these yards will revive mechanic industry and employment along the coasts, and throughout the navigable interior waters, and afford relief to the producer and consumer by the reduction on freight upon the articles of life support: Therefore,

Resolved, That the thanks of the working people and the farmers are due to the members of the Naval Committee of Congress for procuring these measures, which open again the avenues to profitable returns for honest labor, and that their thanks are hereby given by the working people here assembled.

Resolved, That Congress is hereby earnestly urged to pass, at the earliest day, the said bill reported by the committee, to accept the proposals for and establish the said iron-ship and boat-building yards.

Resolved, That our fellow-workmen throughout the country be, and they are hereby, invited to join in like action to this, that Congress may know the wishes of the working people, to secure that permanent employment which such yards cannot fail to create.

Resolved, That copies of this preamble and resolutions be sent to the President of the United States, and to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, with a request that the first be read to the Cabinet in council, and the others be read to the Senate and to the House of Representatives.

In accordance with the last resolution, I have the honor to forward the above copy, and to ask that the preamble and resolutions may be read in accordance with the expression given by the working people.

With great respect, I have the honor to be, your obedient servant.

J. J. H. WRIGHT,
President of the Meeting.

ENROLLED BILL.

Mr. DARRALL, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported that they had examined and found truly enrolled a bill (H. R. No. 420) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to discharge certain obligations of the United States to the creditors of the Upper and Lower bands of Sioux Indians; when the Speaker signed the same.

And then, on motion of Mr. HOLMAN, (at ten minutes to five o'clock p. m.) the House adjourned.

PETITIONS, ETC.

The following petitions, &c., were presented at the Clerk's desk, under the rule, and referred as stated:

By Mr. MAGEE: The petition of citizens of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, for the repeal of the tax on notes put in circulation by banks doing business under State charters, to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

By Mr. FERRY: The petition of S. H. Ransom & Co., of Albany, New York, and others, for the substitution of specific for *ad valorem* duties on tin plates, to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. WOOD: Statement of John M. Bradley, of Arkansas, in relation to the election of Congressman at large from the State of Arkansas to the Forty-third Congress and the occupancy of the seat, to the Committee on Elections.

IN SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, May 13, 1874.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. BYRON SUNDELAND, D. D.

On motion of Mr. TIPTON, and by unanimous consent, the reading of the Journal of yesterday's proceedings was dispensed with.

HOUSE BILLS REFERRED.

The following bills from the House of Representatives were severally read twice by their titles, and referred to the Committee on Public Lands:

A bill (H. R. No. 2019) to forfeit certain public lands granted to the Stockton and Copperopolis Railroad, in the State of California;

A bill (H. R. No. 3339) relating to the disposition of certain lands to be reclaimed in sections 14, 23, and 26, in township 16 north, of range 20, in the county of Sheboygan, in the State of Wisconsin; and

A bill (H. R. No. 3250) to confirm pre-emption and homestead entries of public lands within the limits of railroad grants in cases where such entries have been made under the regulations of the Land Department.

The following bills were severally read twice by their titles, and referred as indicated below:

The bill (H. R. No. 3006) authorizing the President to nominate Holmes Wickoff an assistant surgeon in the Navy—to the Committee on Naval Affairs;

The bill (H. R. No. 2545) making appropriations for the support of the Military Academy for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875—to the Committee on Appropriations;

The bill (H. R. No. 3338) to amend section 1 of an act entitled "An act to revise, consolidate, and amend the Army and Navy pension laws," approved March 3, 1873—to the Committee on Pensions;

The bill (H. R. No. 3335) authorizing the Secretary of War to grant a right of way across a corner of the Fort Gratiot military reservation to the city railroad company, Port Huron, Michigan—to the Committee on Military Affairs; and

The bill (H. R. No. 3281) to amend the act entitled "An act to amend an act to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean, and to secure to the Government the use of the same for postal, military, and other purposes," approved July 2, 1864—to the Committee on Railroads.

The bill (H. R. No. 3168) making appropriations for the repair, preservation, and completion of certain public works for rivers and harbors, and for other purposes, was read twice by its title.

Mr. CHANDLER. Let that bill be referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. MORRILL, of Maine. That bill, according to custom, goes to the Committee on Commerce in both branches, and afterward in the House it goes to the Committee on Appropriations; and I desire it to