

the Legislature of a State or Territory may be presented.

EXPENDITURE OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Mr. BLAINE introduced a bill (H. R. No. 606) to limit and control the expenditure of certain appropriations; which was read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

PROMOTIONS IN THE NAVY.

Mr. BLAINE introduced a bill (H. R. No. 607) to amend the act of July 25, 1866, relating to promotions in the Navy; which was read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

TAXING STOCK OF NATIONAL BANKS.

Mr. PETERS presented resolutions of the Legislature of the State of Maine in regard to the law of the United States providing for the taxation of the stock of national banks; which were referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency, and ordered to be printed.

RIGHTS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS ABROAD.

Mr. PETERS also presented resolutions of the Legislature of the State of Maine in relation to the rights of naturalized citizens of the United States in foreign countries; which were read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

CONTRACTS PAYABLE IN COIN.

Mr. POLAND introduced a bill (H. R. No. 608) for the enforcement of contracts payable in coin; which was read a first and second time.

Mr. POLAND. I ask that this bill be read at length.

The bill, which was read, provides that in every suit or proceeding for the enforcement of any obligation or contract in writing, made after the passage of this act, for the payment of any sum in gold or silver coin, when judgment shall be rendered for the plaintiff or complainant therein the judgment shall be that the sum found due shall be paid in gold and silver coin; and the execution or other final process to enforce such judgment shall direct the collection thereof to be made in gold and silver coin; and the officer to whom such execution or other final process shall be committed for collection shall collect the same in such gold and silver coin.

Mr. POLAND. This is apparently rather a financial than a judicial measure; but as there is some question in reference to our power in this case, I move the reference of the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The motion was agreed to.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

Mr. BOUTWELL introduced a bill (H. R. No. 609) relating to the public debt and the payment of interest thereon; which was read a first and second time, referred to the Committee of Ways and Means, and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

Mr. JENCKES introduced a bill (H. R. No. 610) to establish a department of justice; which was read a first and second time, referred to the Committee on Retrenchment, and ordered to be printed.

PROTECTION OF AMERICAN CITIZENS ABROAD.

Mr. JENCKES also introduced a bill (H. R. No. 611) concerning American citizenship and the protection due to American citizens in foreign States; which was read a first and second time, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

WILLIAM CHAMBERLAIN.

Mr. VAN AERNAM introduced a bill (H. R. No. 612) granting a pension to William Chamberlain, a soldier of the war of 1812; which was read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions and of the War of 1812.

DUNKIRK HARBOR, NEW YORK.

Mr. VAN AERNAM also introduced a bill (H. R. No. 613) making an appropriation for

the completion of the improvements of the harbor at Dunkirk, New York; which was read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

RAILROAD FROM WASHINGTON TO NEW YORK.

Mr. KELSEY introduced a bill (H. R. No. 621) to authorize the building of a military and postal railroad from Washington, District of Columbia, to the city of New York; which was read a first and second time.

Mr. KELSEY. I move the reference of this bill to a select committee of five.

Mr. SPALDING. I move to amend so as to refer the bill to the Committee on Roads and Canals.

Mr. WASHBURN, of Illinois. If the Committee on Roads and Canals have a proposition of that kind before them now I must object to the motion for a special committee.

Mr. KELSEY. I hope it will be referred to a special committee.

Mr. WINDOM. I suggest to the gentleman from New York to modify his motion so as to increase the committee to nine.

Mr. KELSEY. I accept that as a modification of my motion.

The SPEAKER. Under the rules the first question will be on reference to the standing committee.

Mr. HOLMAN. Let us know what we are voting on.

Mr. KELSEY. It is substantially the same proposition passed in the Thirty-Ninth Congress. There are a few amendments. I think every member will favor the object in view.

The House divided on the question of reference to the Committee on Roads and Canals, and there were—ayes 42, noes 26; no quorum voting.

The SPEAKER ordered tellers; and appointed Mr. KELSEY and Mr. SPALDING.

The House again divided; and the tellers reported—ayes 57, noes 38.

Mr. KELSEY demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were not ordered.

Mr. HOLMAN. Is it in order to move to lay the bill on the table?

The SPEAKER. It is not, as during the morning hour on Monday bills and resolutions can only be introduced for reference.

So the bill was referred to the Committee on Roads and Canals.

MRS. ALICE DRYER.

Mr. FERRISS introduced a bill (H. R. No. 614) for the relief of Mrs. Alice Dryer; which was read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

NATURALIZATION.

Mr. ROBINSON introduced a bill (H. R. No. 615) to establish a uniform rule on naturalization; which was read a first and second time.

The bill was read by unanimous consent. It provides that any alien may be admitted to become a citizen of the United States on application to any common law court of record in any one of the States or Territories thereof on making proof to the satisfaction of said court that he is a person of good character, and that it is his intention permanently to reside in the United States, and taking the oath or affirmation prescribed by law to support the Constitution of the United States, which oath or affirmation said court shall administer; and the clerk of said court shall record such application and the proceedings thereon, and thereupon such person shall be considered as a citizen of the United States.

The second section provides that all laws inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

The bill was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

NATURALIZATION OF SAILORS AND MARINES.

Mr. MILLER introduced a bill (H. R. No. 616) extending the provisions of the act of July 17, 1862, relating to the naturalization of soldiers, to those who enlisted in the naval and marine service of the United States; which

was read a first and second time, referred to the Committee on Invalid Pensions, and ordered to be printed.

CHRISTINE KINSEL.

Mr. MILLER also introduced a bill (H. R. No. 617) granting a pension to Christine Kinsel, widow of Erastus Kinsel, deceased, late private company A, one hundred and twenty-fifth regiment Pennsylvania volunteers; which was read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

GENERAL WARD H. BURNETT.

Mr. MILLER also introduced a bill (H. R. No. 618) for the relief of Ward H. Burnett; which was read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

JACOB GATES.

Mr. MORRELL introduced a bill (H. R. No. 619) granting an invalid pension to Jacob Gates; which was read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions and of the War of 1812.

DREDGING POTOMAC RIVER.

Mr. KOONTZ introduced a bill (H. R. No. 620) providing for dredging a part of the channel of the Potomac river by convict labor; which was read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee for the District of Columbia.

REGISTERING OF VESSELS.

Mr. BUCKLAND introduced a bill (H. R. No. 622) to repeal section five of an act entitled "An act concerning the registering and recording of ships or vessels," approved December 31, 1792; which was read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

NATIONAL CURRENCY.

Mr. BUCKLAND also introduced a bill (H. R. No. 623) to regulate the national currency, and for other purposes; which was read a first and second time, referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency, and ordered to be printed.

PRIVATE BUILDINGS IN WASHINGTON.

Mr. WELKER introduced a bill (H. R. No. 624) to regulate the construction of private buildings in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, and for other purposes; which was read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee for the District of Columbia.

DAVID WRIGHT.

Mr. EGGLESTON introduced a bill (H. R. No. 625) for the relief of David Wright, late captain of company E, fifty-second regiment Indiana volunteers; which was read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

MAIL ROUTES IN OHIO.

Mr. BINGHAM introduced a bill (H. R. No. 626) to establish a mail route from Cumberland to Caldwell, in the State of Ohio; which was read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads.

Mr. MUNGHEM introduced a bill (H. R. No. 627) to abolish the post from Pequia, Ohio, to New Bremen, Ohio, and to establish a post route from New Bremen to Anna Station, via the Dayton and Michigan railroad; which was read a first and second time, and referred to the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads.

ISSUE OF LEGAL TENDERS.

Mr. WILLIAMS, of Indiana, introduced a joint resolution (H. R. No. 188) to authorize the issue of \$140,000,000 legal-tender notes, to supply the deficiency in the currency caused by the canceling of legal-tender and compound-interest notes; which was read a first and second time.

Mr. WILLIAMS, of Indiana. I ask to have it referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. SPALDING. I move to lay it on the table.