

and the authorities of South Carolina have erected a large number of batteries, for miles below Fort Moultrie and Fort Sumter, upon Sullivan's and Morris's islands, and the other bars and islands there, that close every channel but one, and that having only eight feet water. The President has no authority by law to remove the custom-house from Charleston outside of the harbor; none to remove the custom-house from Savannah down to the ocean; none to remove it from Mobile down into the Gulf; none to remove it from New Orleans down to the Belize; and, therefore, you cannot collect customs or maintain your custom-houses at any of those places, unless you first send a military force to take possession of them. Not having the power, no law on the statute-book authorizing it, it is very clear that the President could not have contemplated the using of military force to collect revenue there, until Congress should meet and make it his duty, and give him the power to do so.

So much for the purposes of the President. We must take it for granted that he is a man of ordinary intelligence, that he is familiar with the laws of the land, that he knows what his powers are, and what he cannot do without further legislation. Then let us inquire whether it is the policy of the party that brought him into power, to collect this revenue by military force. I infer that it is not their policy; and I will state a few facts that conclusively prove, to my mind, that they have no such intention. The first fact is this: they know it cannot be done without additional legislation, and they have rejected bills to confer that additional legislation. Several weeks ago, they had a majority in both Houses of Congress, and from that day to this, there has been no difficulty in their passing these force bills if they wanted to do so. Why did they not do so? They did make some progress in doing it in the House of Representatives up to the time the President elect arrived in the city of Washington, and immediately postponed them, and they were never taken up again. I think it is very clear, therefore, that they purposely, undoubtedly for patriotic purposes, and with very good motives, withheld from the President the power to do this very thing, and the President says he will not do it if Congress withholds the power. It is very clear that they purposely withheld it, with a majority in both Houses of Congress, the power to pass these laws, and supply the means at any time, unembarrassed by hostile committees; for the Senator from Virginia, [Mr. HUNTER,] who had served on the Committee on Finance for so many years, with so much distinction and usefulness to the country, felt it to be his duty to withdraw from the committee, in order to give them a chance to mature the plans for this new policy, if they saw fit; and with the power in their hands, and the numbers to carry it through, they did not. I am glad they did not. I think they acted wisely and patriotically in withholding it; and I am perfectly willing that the President shall make it an excuse for not doing these things, that the power has been withheld. In view of these facts, I infer that not only the President himself is pacific in his policy, but that the Republican party are convinced that peace under all circumstances, is the best policy. However, a short time will determine.

One thing is certain: that if they anticipate war, and the use of military force, we shall soon see a proclamation for an extra session of Congress, in order that laws may be passed calling armies into the field, and accepting the service of volunteers, and making preparations on the scale that the military authorities shall estimate as necessary to carry out this programme. I have never seen a military man who made an estimate of less than two hundred and fifty thousand men as being necessary to reduce the southern States into subjection. I think, therefore, that we have one of two lines of policy before us; the one an army of a quarter of a million men, with two hundred and fifty millions of money to support it for a single year; the other the policy of peace. I shall cling to the hope that the peace policy will prevail, until I see the contrary shown by some authoritative act of the President himself. I care not what individual Senators may think. I draw my conclusions not from what this man or that man thinks. I believe there are a great many men in the Republican party who hold principles and a policy entirely repugnant to the views of the President. I draw

my inference, therefore, from the official action of the two Houses of Congress, and from the inaugural address of the President. I think these facts show conclusively that we are to have no war, no bloody collision, and that the peace policy is going to prevail.

Mr. FESSENDEN. I think it is hardly worth while for us to work ourselves too hard now at this period of the session, while we are merely a Senate; and I would therefore, having it perfectly understood that I rose merely for that purpose and not for the sake of getting the floor, move that the Senate adjourn.

Mr. CLINGMAN. Will the Senator allow me? Is it contemplated to meet regularly from day to day? There was something said yesterday about an adjournment over until Monday. Does the Senator think it necessary that we should meet from day to day?

Mr. FESSENDEN. I think we had better meet to-morrow and have the committees announced, and there may be some business possibly to act on. I renew my motion.

The motion was agreed to; and the Senate adjourned.

IN SENATE.

FRIDAY, March 8, 1861.

Prayer by Rev. Dr. GURLEY.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The following resolution comes up as the unfinished business of yesterday:

Resolved, That there be printed, for the use of the Senate, the usual number of copies of the inaugural address of the President of the United States.

The resolution was adopted.

GALLERY FOR THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

Mr. GRIMES. I ask leave to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the order of the Senate, setting aside a part of the gallery for the use of the diplomatic corps be, and the same is hereby, rescinded.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Does the Senator ask for the present consideration of the resolution?

Mr. GRIMES. I am not particular about it. It may lie over until to-morrow, so that everybody may know what it is.

EXPULSION OF A SENATOR.

Mr. FOSTER. I ask leave to offer the following resolution:

Whereas Hon. L. T. WIGFALL, now a Senator of the United States from the State of Texas, has declared in debate that he is a foreigner, that he owes no allegiance to this Government, but that he belongs to and owes allegiance to another and foreign State and government; Therefore,

Resolved, That the said L. T. WIGFALL be, and he hereby is, expelled from this body.

As the Senator is not in his seat, let it lie over.

DOMINICK CONROY.

Mr. RICE. I offer the following order:

Ordered, That the resolution of last session, making an allowance to the widow of Dominick Conroy, be recommended to the Committee to Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate.

I ask for its reference to the committee.

Mr. CLARK. There is no committee now.

Mr. RICE. I ask that it lie on the table until the committees are formed.

The motion was agreed to.

WITHDRAWAL OF PAPERS.

On motion of Mr. LATHAM, it was

Ordered, That leave be granted to withdraw from the files of the Senate the papers of Francis Hütman, referring to his claim for detention of the Peruvian bark Callao and cargo, in San Francisco, in 1848, by the collector of the port.

COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE.

Mr. BRIGHT. I offer a list, proposing committees for the body during the present session, and ask that it be read.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The list will be read for the information of the Senate.

The Secretary read it, as follows:

On Foreign Relations—Messrs. Sumner, (chairman,) Collamer, Doolittle, Harris, Douglas, Polk, and Breckinridge.

On Finance—Messrs. Fessenden, (chairman,) Simmons, Wade, Howe, Hunter, Pearce, and Bright.

On Commerce—Messrs. Chandler, (chairman,) King, Morrill, Wilson, Clingman, Salsbury, and Johnson.

On Military Affairs and Militia—Messrs. Wilson, (chairman,) King, Baker, Lane, Rice, Latham, and Breckinridge.

On Naval Affairs—Messrs. Hale, (chairman,) Grimes, Foot, Cowan, Thomson, Nicholson, and Kennedy.

On the Judiciary—Messrs. Trumbull, (chairman,) Foster, Ten Eyck, Cowan, Bayard, Powell, and Clingman.

On the Post Office and Post Roads—Messrs. Collamer, (chairman,) Dixon, Wade, Trumbull, Rice, Bright, and Latham.

On Public Lands—Messrs. Harlan, (chairman,) Bingham, Clark, Wilkinson, Johnson, Mitchell, and Bragg.

On Revolutionary Claims—Messrs. King, (chairman,) Chandler, Wilkinson, Nicholson, and Nesmith.

On Claims—Messrs. Clark, (chairman,) Simmons, Howe, Cowan, Bragg, and Polk.

On Private Land Claims—Messrs. Harris, (chairman,) Ten Eyck, Sumner, Polk, and Bayard.

On Indian Affairs—Messrs. Doolittle, (chairman,) Baker, Cowan, Ten Eyck, Sebastian, Rice, and Nesmith.

On Pensions—Messrs. Foster, (chairman,) Bingham, Lane, Simmons, Salsbury, Powell, and Mitchell.

On the District of Columbia—Messrs. Grimes, (chairman,) Anthony, Morrill, Wade, Kennedy, Clingman, and Powell.

On Patents and the Patent Office—Messrs. Simmons, (chairman,) Sumner, Doolittle, Thomson, and Sebastian.

On Public Buildings and Grounds—Messrs. Foot, (chairman,) Dixon, Chandler, Bright, and Kennedy.

On Territories—Messrs. Wade, (chairman,) Wilkinson, Cowan, Hale, Douglas, Sebastian, and Bragg.

To Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate—Messrs. Dixon, (chairman,) Clark, and Johnson.

On Printing—Messrs. Anthony, (chairman,) Harlan, and Nicholson.

On Engrossed Bills—Messrs. Lane, (chairman,) Morrill, and Mitchell.

On Enrolled Bills—Messrs. Bingham, (chairman,) Baker, and Salsbury.

On the Library—Messrs. Pearce, (chairman,) Collamer, and Fessenden.

Mr. BRIGHT. Under the rule, it is the privilege of any Senator to insist upon the election of the chairman of each committee by ballot. The Secretary will please read the rule for the information of the Senate.

The Secretary read it, as follows:

"35. In the appointment of the standing committees, the Senate will proceed, by ballot, severally to appoint the chairman of each committee, and then, by one ballot, the other members necessary to complete the same; and a majority of the whole number of votes given shall be necessary to the choice of a chairman of a standing committee. All other committees shall be appointed by ballot; and a plurality of votes shall make a choice."

Mr. BRIGHT. I believe each side of the Chamber has agreed upon this list, and by unanimous consent the list may be adopted without putting the Senate to the trouble and delay of time necessary to ballot. I move the unanimous adoption of the list.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Senator moves a suspension of the rule for the purpose of considering the list proposed by him, by the unanimous consent of the Senate. The Chair hears no objection. The question, therefore, will be on the adoption of the list of committees as presented to the Senate.

The list was adopted.

ORDER IN THE GALLERIES.

Mr. ANTHONY. I offer the following resolution.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Chair to consider and report what additional arrangements and regulations are necessary to the preservation of order in the galleries of the Senate.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Does the Senator ask the consideration of the resolution at this time?

Mr. ANTHONY. If there is no objection.

The resolution was considered by unanimous consent, and agreed to.

CHARLES W. WELSH.

The VICE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate a communication from the clerk of the Court of Claims, returning the papers in the case of Charles W. Welsh, praying to be allowed the difference between the pay of chief clerk and that of Secretary of the Navy during the time he acted in the latter capacity; which, on motion of Mr. NICHOLSON, was ordered to lie on the table.

DOMINICK CONROY.

Mr. RICE. I now ask the consideration of the resolution which I offered this morning. It is merely to recommit a former resolution.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Is it the pleasure of the Senate now to proceed to the consideration of the resolution submitted by the Senator from Minnesota? The Chair hears no objection. The resolution will be read again for the information of the Senate.

The Secretary read it, as follows:

Ordered, That the resolution of last session, making an allowance to the widow of Dominick Conroy, be recom-