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Time's Changes.

Yes, we are changed!—there is not one
Throughout the earth, from whom
Some lovely treasure hath not gone,
Of beauty or of bloom:
And every year, and every day
A something bright shall pass away,
Until we reach the tomb!
But there shall fade each earthly stain,
And we shall be pure again.

CONGRESSIONAL.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, July 20, 1846.

The House then resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, (Mr. McDowell, of Ohio in the chair,) and resumed the consideration of the bill reported from the Committee of Ways and Means, making further additional appropriations for the pay, &c., of members of Congress, and for certain objects of expenditure in the Indian Department, connected with negotiations and with delegations from various tribes of Indians in Mexico and Texas.

The question recurred on Mr. McKay's amendment, moved and pending on Thursday last, to amend the item for pay, &c., of members of Congress; by striking out \$160,700, and inserting \$176,548—the increase having been rendered necessary by an extension of one week of the present session; the bill having been based on the presumption that the session would close on the 3d of August; whereas the two Houses have subsequently fixed on the 10th of that month as the day for the termination of the session.

The amendment was at once agreed to. And the question recurred on the motion made by Mr. Cobb, on Thursday last, to strike the item altogether from the bill.

Mr. Stewart said he should vote for the amendment proposed by the gentleman from Georgia, (Mr. Cobb.) He hoped it would be adopted; and he here gave notice that, if it should not be adopted in committee, and the previous question should not be called, he should himself move the same amendment in the House, and call the yeas and nays. He wished to see who the gentlemen were who were ready to anticipate their own pay, while hundreds of applicants were waiting at the door of the House, and hundreds of thousands of dollars, to which they were justly entitled, were withheld from them by delay. For one, he was willing to wait the action of the Senate on the general appropriation bill, just as all others were obliged to wait who were concerned in that bill. But if the gentlemen were desirous of discussing amendments, he thought they had much better turn their attention to the amendment which Mr. S. had offered a day or two since, which provided that, after Congress had been in session six months, the per diem should be reduced to six dollars; and after eight months to two dollars. Mr. S.'s object in offering this amendment had not been to reduce members' pay, but to shorten the session of Congress; and this, in his apprehension, was the only way in which that object could ever be effected. This bill was professedly to provide against a deficit; and Mr. S. could tell gentlemen that there would be other deficits of far greater amount. There would be a deficit, and a very great deficit, shortly experienced in the revenue of the country.—The contemplated passage of the new tariff bill, of the sub-treasury bill, and the warehousing bill, and the land bill, taken together, would reduce the revenue of the country one half. And was this proper time to provide in anticipation, for members' own pay?

Mr. Chipman here called Mr. Stewart to order. He perceived that the gentleman was about to inflict upon the House another tariff speech. He hoped that he would not be allowed to proceed.

Mr. Stewart said the House was in Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and he claimed the same liberty of debate which had been allowed to other gentlemen. This was a bill to appropriate money, and the money to be appropriated was a part of the revenue; it was certainly, therefore, in order to speak on anything which affected the revenue.

The chair ruled Mr. Stewart to be in order.

Mr. Stewart said that whatever touched the revenues of the country, affected the people throughout the Union & formed a legitimate subject of discussion in the people's House of Representatives. This was a question which, as the government organ maintained, affected the Administration only; it was a question for the people as much more than it was a question for the Administration. He had said that there would shortly be other deficiencies of far more importance than that which this bill proposed to provide for. If gentlemen carried their proposed measures they would find themselves without money to pay the troops who were fighting our battles. The House had passed a bill creating a Treasury bank, and authorizing it to issue ten millions of dollars in Government paper; but, then, ten millions of

paper money would prove but a drop in the bucket. Gentlemen had sacrificed their own principles, but they had done it in vain, professing themselves the friends of an exclusive metallic currency, and passing a bill which forbade any other currency to be received or paid by the Government. They had, in the face of their own measures and their own principles, authorized the issue of a paper currency. They had erected a Treasury bank in the face of their own Subtreasury bill, the consequence of which was that the Treasury would not get a dollar in bullion, but would only get back its own Treasury notes.

But, worse than that, gentlemen would not get sufficient revenue to meet the ordinary expenses of Government. What were those ordinary expenses, and what were their amount?

Mr. S. called the attention of the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means to the fact, and he should like to hear his explanation of it. The estimates made by the Secretary of the Treasury, before there was a word said about war or the prospect of war—estimates rendered in a time of profound peace to meet the ordinary expenses of the Government—had been more by six millions and a half than the expenditures of the preceding year. If gentlemen doubted it, he would refer them the Secretary's report. He wished the chairman to explain how it was that the peace estimates for this year exceeded by more than six millions the peace expenditures of the last year; and besides this, we had a bill appropriating a million and a half to make good deficient appropriations. Add this million and a half to the six millions and a half he had just mentioned, and it would make eight millions, by which amount our peace expenditure, for the present year surpassed those of the last. There stood the fact in the Secretary's own report, and Mr. S. challenged the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, or any friend of the Secretary or of the Administration, to deny it. Was this war brought about to conceal these enormous and unprecedented expenditures in a time of peace, exceeding by six or seven millions the expenditures of the preceding years? The war would smother up all this extravagance, and conceal it from the public view. All wasteful expenditures would now be attributed to the war. The war would be a blanket wide enough to cover all up.

But Mr. S. would leave this point, and refer to a suggestion made this morning by the gentleman from Missouri, (Mr. Bowlin,) who had introduced an amendment for deducting the pay of Members for absenteeism. Mr. S. concurred in the justice and propriety of that amendment, and he believed that this word *absenteeism* was a new word in the debates of Congress.

Mr. S. had seen it this morning employed for the first time, in the columns of the Union, and he thanked the editor for the word. The government organ said that *absenteeism* was the root of all evil. The government editor had given out that there would be no reply made by the Whig friends of the tariff of 1842, but that, as the new free trade tariff Senators were not going to make any reply, he, the learned editor, would do it for them. He had accordingly commenced, and the very first word he employed was this word of *absenteeism*; and a most powerful argument he had made upon it. An able Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Davis,) had attributed the destitute condition of the British colonies to the fact of having free trade with England; but the sapient editor corrected that the low condition of the colonies was owing, not to free trade, but to *absenteeism*—a most excellent word—*thank, thee Jew!* for that; that they employed others to manufacture every thing for them; and that was the true reason why they were so greatly depressed. Now, Mr. S. would ask, what was the policy of this Administration? Was it any thing else but *absenteeism*, from beginning to end! Was it not a regular system of *absenteeism*?—Let that policy be carried out, and all the tradesmen and mechanics who worked for the people of this country would be absentees; they would not reside in this country; they would reside all abroad; and, what was further, not only our mechanics and tradesmen, but our farmers too were to be absentees. The agricultural products we consumed were to be raised in England. We were to have absentee mechanics, absentee farmers, absentee laborers. He thanked Mr. Ritchie for this excellent word, it was one of the most admirable exponents of the policy of this Administration which he could have hit upon. The worst of the matter was, that the poor man knew nothing of the subject he was writing about, and the natural consequence was that he displayed his ignorance. At this step, while endeavoring to avoid one difficulty, he only fell into another; and, like the persecuted fish, jumped out of the frying pan into the fire.

But the learned editor had given us another illustration of the use of this term. He tells us that the capitalists of Boston had built up Lowell and Manchester, in New Hampshire; and this was ruinous to

Lowell and to the people about Manchester. This was *absenteeism*. It was the capital of Boston which had gone to Lowell, and it was the same thing with Manchester, in New Hampshire. That too had been built up by absentee capital from Boston. And now he supposed, if that same capital should travel down from Boston into Virginia and North Carolina, and create other manufacturing establishments of similar character, at which the surrounding farmers would find a market for their beef and flour, their hams and chickens, and thus be enabled to make themselves comfortable and happy, that too would be ruinous *absenteeism*.—The editor of the Union complained of this in dolorous strains, and yet his own scheme was nothing else but this in a different form. Instead of Boston capital going to benefit the people of New Hampshire, and the people of Virginia, and the people of North Carolina, this editor and his masters proposed to destroy American capital, and employ not only British capital, but British labor to supply all our wants. It was not Boston absenteeism; it was British absenteeism. If this was the only tune which this government organ could play, he thought the sooner the Administration and the advocates of the British bill stopped it the better it would be for them; for it was playing most villainously out of tune. But he wished it to go on, for it had certainly suggested some of the strongest arguments, against the free trade tariff that had yet been offered.

Mr. S. had said that the effect of the proposed legislation would be to strike down the revenue one-half. He would present one or two instances by way of illustration. He would take as an example the article of iron. It was now under a protecting duty of seventy-six per cent. The Secretary proposed to reduce its protection to thirty per cent. Why? What for? Why, to increase the revenue.—Well, how was the Secretary going to manage to increase the revenue of the country by reducing the iron duty from seventy-six to thirty per cent? In order to get the same amount of revenue from this article that we got now, it was obvious we must import more than double the present amount. But how was the Secretary going to do this? He had no magic power to increase the consumption of iron in the United States; and the effect of his policy, instead of increasing, went to destroy consumption by destroying the ability of the people to consume; yet, unless he doubled consumption, he could not command the present amount of duty, far less increase it. Why, then, did he want to reduce the duties to thirty per cent? What was it for? What object did he wish to obtain? The only object he would obtain was to employ *absentees* to the destruction of our own laborers. This must be the inevitable effect of his scheme of reducing duties. The Secretary told us in his report that he expected to bring in two million of dollars from the importation of iron. Now Mr. S. undertook to say that if the bill reduced the iron duty to thirty per cent., instead of increasing the revenue on that article, there would be a falling off of two millions. He put himself on the result, and experience would show that he was right. And this was the great measure of the Administration! Instead of increasing, the bill would reduce the revenue on iron fifty per cent. The Secretary tells us that our dutiable imports are one hundred and one million; say one hundred millions; the present duties, he says, average 32 40 per cent., say thirty-three per cent, and he proposed to reduce them to twenty, or say twenty-two per cent., one third off; then it is manifest that to get the same revenue he now receives, he must add fifty millions to our imports; he must have one hundred and fifty instead of one hundred millions of imports. Well, now he would ask the Secretary and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, (Mr. McKay,) why send fifty millions of dollars out of the country to buy foreign goods without thereby increasing the revenue one cent? The only effect was to increase the burden of the country fifty millions. Now we pay one hundred millions to foreigners and twenty-seven of revenue to Government—one hundred and twenty-seven millions of dollars. By this bill we pay one hundred and fifty millions to foreigners, and twenty-seven millions to Government, making one hundred and twenty-seven millions; just fifty more than the people now pay; and why? To favor foreigners and destroy American labor. That was the effect of this measure. You cannot increase consumption; and of course you must destroy fifty millions of your own home supply to make room for this fifty millions of increased foreign imports. It was a system of absurdity, and a system of destruction.

But gentlemen were in love with the scheme and the party had ordained that it should be tried. Let its advocates go home and tell the shoemakers and carpenters and blacksmiths and tanners and hatters that they had voted to take 20 per cent. off those articles which were the products of their labor. Tell the shoemaker that the Secretary of the treasury proposed to bring into the country one hundred and fifty thousand dollars worth more of shoes for the purpose of increasing the revenue,

but that the real effect would be to reduce the revenue; and when these honest and hard working men asked their representatives why they voted for such a scheme, their only answer must be, to break up your labor. Let them go into their districts and tell the hat makers that the Secretary intended to bring in fifty thousand dollars more of foreign hats. Tell the blacksmith that Mr. Walker intended to bring in fifty thousand dollars of iron manufacturers. Go tell the tailors that he intended, in a like manner, to bring in two hundred thousand dollars worth more of ready-made clothing, reducing the protection on that article from fifty down to thirty per cent., and let them understand that the fruit of this reform would be to reduce the revenue and reduce the price of their work twenty per cent., to throw multitudes of them out of employment, and to supply the place of them in the market by the labor of English and French shoemakers, English hatters, English blacksmiths, and English tailors, and how was it probable these men would be pleased, & what was of more consequence to gentlemen, how was it likely they would vote? [A great restlessness was here manifested.] Mr. S. said he knew it was a very unpleasant topic in certain quarters, but what he said was true, the gentlemen would find it to be true. He warned them to remember his words, just so sure as they passed this new tariff bill so certainly would they destroy the revenue, destroy the country, and destroy their party; and, if the last was the only consequence, he would not regret it—it would be a godsend to the country. He told them before hand they would not have money to pay the ordinary expenses of the Government, let alone the expenses of the war.

Mr. S. was willing to risk all he had in the world on the correctness of this prediction. Let gentlemen carry out the ad valorem tariff, their subtreasury bill, and their warehousing system, and they would not get next year one-half the revenue that they got this—not half—the prediction. Yet their scheme was called a revenue measure, but it was in truth a system to encourage fraud and perjury, to cheat the Government of revenue, and the farmers of their market, and labor of its employment, and industry of its just and fair rewards.

And here Mr. S. would take the liberty of suggesting to the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means the practical contrast between the sliding scale of Sir Robert Peel's bill and the ad valorem scale of the new tariff bill. By the bill of Sir Robert Peel, when the prices ran down, the scale of duties ran up; and when the prices ran up, the scale of duties ran down; but the scale of the chairman's bill worked in a manner directly the reverse of this. When the price abroad ran down, the duty ran up; and when the price ran up, the duty ran up with it. Sir R. Peel's scale prevented fluctuations of price, and the committee's promoted it.

Mr. Joseph R. Ingersoll begged Mr. S. to call it the Secretary's scale, and not the scale of the Committee of Ways and Means. It was the Secretary's bill, and nobody else's.

Mr. Stewart resuming, said, come the bill from where it might, it would give the laborer protection when he did not want protection, and would take it away from him when he wanted it the most. When the prices of his labor was high, foreign goods would be kept out by a high duty, but when the price of labor was low, foreign goods would be let in upon him by a proportionably low duty. When iron, for example, was sunk down to twenty-four dollars a ton, and of course would be largely imported, then the duty was but seven and a half dollars, but when iron rose to fifty dollars a ton, and could not be imported, then the duty rose to fifteen dollars. Such was the practical operation of this ad valorem system; besides, it was a system of frauds and perjuries, by which dishonest foreigners were enabled to destroy & drive out of business every honest American importer. Could any man deny the truth of this? Why, then, destroy the present admirable tariff, that has worked so well, and adopt such a miserable and rickety system as this? Why destroy a tariff that had paid since 1842, inclusive, no less than \$34,307,224 of the principal and interest of your public debt, and leaving in your Treasury, on the 1st of July, 1845, a balance of \$7,658,306, which, added to the above gives a surplus revenue, over and above the ordinary expenditures, of \$41,965,520, derived from the tariff of 1842, including the payments of that year. This he stated from official annual Treasury reports of 1843, page 31, of 1844, page 19, and of 1845, page 25. Yet this tariff, which had yielded this large surplus is to be destroyed in the midst of war, and, instead of doubling the duties, as was done in the last war, it is now proposed to reduce them one third.

Mr. S. said he had risen this morning unexpectedly. He had not intended to make a speech, and had already said more than he had intended. He was opposed to this appropriation, and would vote for the amendment proposed by the gentleman from Georgia, (Mr. Cobb.) The question recurred on Mr. Cobb's

amendment to strike out the item for pay, &c., of members; when—
Mr. Stewart moved to add to Mr. Bowlin's amendment the following additional proviso:
"And be it further provided, That the pay of members of Congress, after the session shall have continued six months, shall be six dollars per day, after seven months two dollars per day, after eight months four dollars per day."
This was rejected.
And the proviso of Mr. Bowlin was then also rejected, without a count.

Movements on the Rio Grande

The New Orleans "Times" of the 21st instant embodies in its account of the late news from the Rio Grande some information which we have not seen in other accounts, as follows:
"The steamer *Big Hatcher* reached Camargo on the evening of the 13th, having on board troops and provisions—a company of the 7th Regiment. Two companies of the same regiment had previously arrived on the steamboats *Brotensville*, *Enterprise*, and *J. E. Roberts*.—The river was falling rapidly, and the Rancheros were resuming their usual occupations. Col. HAYS's Rangers were not there at that date. They, however, had been in, after making a reconnaissance of the country as far as Monterey. Our informant states that it was reported by the Rangers that they had penetrated to the precipitous cliffs that overhang Monterey, when a trooper (a very adventurous soldier named *CUMMINS*) reached a point overhanging the Bishop's Palace, which commanded a view of the whole city. The utmost activity seemed to prevail among the Mexicans, who were busily employed in repairing the old fortifications and erecting new ones. The number of troops was not ascertained, but, from the movements observable, it was evident they were preparing every means of defence.

"General TAYLOR is now encamped with four regiments, (Colonels Walton's, Davis's, Dakin's, and Marks's,) with the Alabamians, under Captain Desha, at Buena Vista, on the borders of a lake, seventeen miles north west of Matamoros. The health of the volunteers here, with General TAYLOR, had much improved, owing to the fine air they enjoyed and splendid encamping ground they occupied.

"The steamer *Mercer* arrived at the mouth of the Rio Grande, all safe, on the 17th inst. There were no signs of Mexican soldiery in the vicinity of Camargo. This town is but a paltry one, after all, as regards houses and population, the former not being over twenty.
"Capt. WALKER had returned from his expedition to Monterey, and delivered a report, which is said to be a very interesting one, of the state of the country through which he passed, the falling places, &c. There is no probability of any opposition being made to the advance of the American troops between Camargo and Monterey, and, from what could be collected, the Mexican force concentrated at the latter point is extremely insignificant. Nothing regarding the reported approach of Paredes with the army of reserve of an authentic nature has been ascertained at Headquarters, although scouts are out in some numbers for that purpose. Every thing however, seems to announce that the possession of Monterey will be fiercely disputed, as it is, by nature and art, one of the most powerful strongholds in Mexico. The inhabitants and soldiers are daily employed in improving defences."

Transporting a Steamboat over Land.

The transportation of the steam packet Julia Palmer, of about four hundred tons, around the falls between Lake Superior and Huron, has been commenced. She has already been raised seventeen hundred feet, and moved more than half the distance with complete success. The following extract from a Buffalo paper contains the particulars of this astonishing enterprise:
"SAULT DE MARIE, July 9th, 1846.—Thus far we have met with success far beyond our most sanguine hope. We have overcome all obstacles, such as rapids, rocks, hills and morass, with rapidity and safety truly astonishing, and are now on the summit level, 1700 feet from the water of our starting point, in 10½ working days, and without accident of any kind. This hauling as thoroughly tested and proved the superiority of the strength and fastenings of the vessel, as everything belonging to her—engine boiler, boats, sails, rigging, furniture, provisions, and a goodly number of hands—are on board, and she makes no complaint.—Ahead of us all is smooth sailing, a queer name to call it by—2500 feet to the water above the portage, which with ordinary success will be overcome in thirteen working days. Then for a good launch and fair start upon the father of Lakes. I think we shall be ready to ring the

starting bell by the first of August.—Thermometer at 90 deg. in the shade to day; we are anxious to get on to the lake to get cool. Daylight from half-past two A. M. till half-past nine P. M. and moonlight for the balance. Beautiful evenings.

A SCENE IN CONGRESS.

We expect quite a scene in the House of Representatives in a day or two.—Gen. McConnell, of Alabama, a few days since, in the House of Representatives, proposed to locate a Land Office some where in his District for the convenience of some of his constituents. A member from Ohio (Mr. Sawyer) moved to lay the motion on the table. The following conversation then occurred:
Mr. McConnell—What has become of my motion Mr. Speaker?
The Speaker—It was laid on the table.
Mr. McConnell—At whose instigation?
The Speaker—On motion of the gentleman from Ohio.
Mr. McConnell—Which gentleman? Was it Sawyer?
The Speaker nodded assent.
Mr. McConnell—(addressing Mr Sawyer)—Old Sausage, if you ever put your finger in my mess again, I'll present you with a fat sausage, which will last you for a few days. (I omit some hard words.)
The next morning General McConnell was up very early, went to the market and bought a very large sausage, about six inches long, and nearly as many in circumference, which he carried up to the House of Representatives. He laid it on his desk during the day, but had no opportunity to dispose of it.—Some of McConnell's colleagues have been trying to dissuade him from carrying out his purpose. They say it will give the Ohio man cause of offence. He says he intends it for that, and swears that the first opportunity he will present him with the sausage accompanied by the best speech he can make on the occasion.
—N. Y. Tribune.

Sub-Treasury and Treasury Notes.

This Administration stands before the People in a singular attitude. One of its leading measures was avowed to be a Sub-Treasury. The House of Representatives therefore, passed a bill providing that from October next the Government should neither receive nor pay out anything but Gold and Silver. And yet that same House of Representatives, before its members leave Washington, has passed a bill authorizing an issue of ten millions of Treasury Notes! The Sub-Treasury Law rejects the notes of specie-paying Banks; but Congress authorizes an issue of paper which does not even rest upon a specie basis! The Government has spent its surplus. It has rendered the Public Lands valueless for all the purposes of Revenue. It is about to emasculate the Tariff. And then, to carry on its War, it puts "irredeemable paper currency" afloat. Yes, while repudiating the notes of Banks whose paper represents specie, the Government resorts to "shin plaster promises" to pay its creditors!
We do not see, after passing the Treasury Shin Plaster bill how the Senate can have the face to touch the Sub-Treasury abolition. It requires great assurance, on the part of the Administration, after issuing paper without capital, to say that it will neither receive nor pay out Bank Notes. But we suppose our Government is about to imitate the example of the Matron who, after living for years in dependence upon her neighbors, finally becoming the owner of a "brass Kettle," made proclamation that thereafter "she should neither borrow nor lend."—Alb. Journal.

SOLDIERS PAY.

Major-General; \$376 per month; aid to ditto, additional pay, \$38; Brigadier General, \$246; aid to ditto, additional pay, 28; Colonel of Infantry, \$166; Lieutenant-Colonel, \$145; Major, \$129; Captain, 80; first Lieutenant, \$65; Adjutant, \$33; Sergeant, \$13; Corporal, \$10; Privates, each \$8; Colonel of Cavalry, \$184; Lieutenant-Colonel, \$102; Major, 141; Captain, \$106; first and second Lieutenants, each \$90; Adjutant, \$100; Privates, self and horse, \$20.

BANK ROBBERY.

A man went into the bank of the State of New York, in Wall street, on Wednesday afternoon, and presented a check for \$1600. The teller took the check, and went to the book for the purpose of comparing signatures, and while he was gone, the man who presented the check seized a pile of fifty dollars bills lying on the counter; before the teller had returned, made off with them, to the amount of \$2,500. There has been no clue discovered to the bold robber. It is almost needless to say that the check was a forgery, so that the robber is guilty of a double crime.

The Governor of New York has the appointment of no less than 7,238 officers.