

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD
OF THE
Sixty-Ninth Legislature
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE.

1899.

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A message was received from the House, by Mr. Smith of Presque Isle, informing the Senate that the House had transacted all business before it and was ready to adjourn without date.

On motion by Mr. Drummond of Cumberland, it was

Ordered, that a committee of three on the part of the Senate, with such as the House may join, be appointed to wait on the Governor and inform him that both branches of the Legislature have acted on all matters before them and are now ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make.

The Chair appointed as such committee on the part of the Senate, Messrs. Drummond of Cumberland, Vickery of Kennebec, and Dudley of Washington.

A message was received from the House, notifying the Senate of the committee appointed on the part of that branch.

Mr. Drummond subsequently reported for the committee, that they had performed the duty assigned them, and that the Governor was pleased to say that he would transmit, through the secretary of State, a list of the acts and resolves passed by the Legislature, and that he had no further communication to make.

The secretary of State thereupon presented to the President of the Senate the following communication:

Executive Department,
Augusta, March 17, 1899.

To the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Gentlemen—I transmit herewith a list of the acts and resolves passed during the present session of the Legislature and approved by me, numbering 337 acts and 117 resolves; also one act and 13 resolves which become effective without my signature.

(Signed) LLEWELLYN POWERS.

The President thereupon declared the Senate adjourned without day.

HOUSE.

Friday, March 17, 1899.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Livingston of Augusta.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

An act to render optional the use of seals on deeds and other contracts, came from the Senate indefinitely postponed.

On motion by Mr. Hopkins of Deering, the vote was reconsidered whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed, and on further motion by the same gentleman it was referred to the next Legislature.

Resolve laying a tax on the counties of the State for the years 1899 and 1900, came from the Senate amended by Senate amendment "A."

The House reconsidered its action whereby this resolve was passed to be engrossed, Senate amendment "A" was adopted, and the resolve was passed to be engrossed as amended.

Mr. Wilson of Brunswick, presented the following order:

Ordered, That after March 17, James M. Sanborn of Newport be excused from further attendance at this session, and that the clerk be directed to make up his pay and mileage to the end of the session.

The order received a passage.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Nickerson from the committee on agriculture, reported ought to pass on resolve making an appropriation to cover deficiency for cattle killed on account of tuberculosis by the cattle commissioners.

On motion by Mr. Philbrook the rules were suspended, the resolve received its two readings and was passed to be engrossed.

Mr. DeCoster from same committee reported ought to pass on bill an act in favor of the York county agricultural society.

On motion by Mr. DeCoster the rules were suspended, the bill received its three readings and was passed to be engrossed.

READ AND ASSIGNED.

An act relative to the desecration or mutilation or improper use of the flag of the United States or of this State.

Mr. Chase offered amendment "A," which was adopted.

On motion by Mr. Melcher, the rules were suspended, the bill was read the third time and was passed to be engrossed as amended.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED.

An act to repeal section 5 of chapter 206 of the Public Laws of 1897 relating to taxes on wild lands.

PASSED TO BE ENACTED.

An act to amend sections 55 and 56 of chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 72 of the Public Laws of 1887, chapter 235 of the Public Laws of 1893 and chapter 49 of the Public Laws of 1895, relating to licensing transportation companies.

An act to amend section 8 of chapter 60 of the Revised Statutes, regulating the

right to trial by jury in divorce suits.

An act to divide the town of Frenchville and incorporate the town of Saint Agatha.

An act in relation to the police court of the city of Gardiner.

An act to fix the clerk hire of the probate court in the county of Kennebec.

An act to amend chapter 104 of the Private and Special Laws of 1899, relating to the taking of herring in the town of Cutler.

An act in relation to taxes assessed on timber and grass on reserved lands for years 1887 to 1896, both inclusive.

An act in relation to foreign banking associations and corporations.

An act to amend section 4 of chapter 115 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the register of probate in Lincoln county.

An act to amend chapter 87 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 218 of the Public Laws of 1893 and chapter 133 of the Public Laws of 1895, relating to limitations of actions against executors and administrators.

An act to prohibit advertising debtors.

An act relating to the construction of sidewalks in the city of Auburn.

An act to amend section 28 of chapter 90 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the discharge of mortgages, as amended by chapter 69 of the Public Laws of 1895.

An act to extend the rights, powers and privileges of the Franklin, Somerset and Kennebec Railway Company.

An act to re-establish the salary of the judge and register of probate for Somerset county.

An act to amend chapter 33, section 1, of the Public Laws of 1887, relating to the burial of soldiers.

An act to extend the charter of the Kennebec and Franklin Railway.

An act pertaining to the taking of salmon in the Penobscot river, above the Water Works' dam at Bangor.

An act amendatory of chapter 507 of the Private and Special Laws of 1889, entitled "An act to establish the Dover municipal court."

An act to prevent heads of departments from employing counsel of witnesses before committees of the Legislature.

An act relating to the sale of real estate of corporations on execution.

An act to amend chapter 11 of the Private Laws of 1899, entitled "An act to annex the city of Deering to the city of Portland."

An Act to incorporate Mount Pleasant Cemetery Corporation to South Portland.

An act to prevent the taking of smelts by drag seines in the waters of Buck's harbor, Orcutt's harbor and Lawrence bay in the town of Brooksville.

An act to amend the charter of the Ossipee Valley Telegraph and Telephone Company.

An act to prevent the killing of tern.

An act to authorize the Lewiston, Brunswick and Bath Street Railway and the Portsmouth, Kittery and York Street Railway to increase their stocks and bonds.

An act to amend sections 3 and 6 of chapter 51 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the organization of railroad companies under general law.

An act to amend paragraph 2 of section 59 of chapter 3 of the Revised Statutes, relating to town, village and city by-laws and ordinances.

An act to amend sections 3 and 6 of chapter 263 of the Public Laws of 1893 as amended by chapter 81 of the Public Laws of 1895 and chapter 249 of the Public Laws of 1897, relating to the organization and control of street railroads.

FINALLY PASSED.

Resolve in favor of the stenographer and messenger to the committee on legal affairs.

Resolve providing for an epidemic or emergency fund.

Resolve in favor of the assistant secretary and stenographer, and the messenger to the judiciary committee.

Resolve in favor of the city of Augusta.

Resolve in favor of the North Berwick Agricultural Association.

Resolve in favor of the committee appointed to attend the funeral of Harlan P. Prince of Yarmouth.

Resolve in favor of Adjutant General John T. Richards.

Resolve relating to certain unpaid taxes assessed against certain street railroad corporations.

Resolve in favor of the Maine State Prison.

Resolve providing for a State auditor, came up on its passage to be enacted, and the roll was called on its passage.

Yeas—Abbott, Adams, Beal, Belleau, Bennett, Bird, Bodwell, Bridgman, Brimmer, Britton, Brown of Falmouth, Brown of Warren, Bryant, Buck, Burns, Carr, Cartret, Chase, Chick, Cleveland, Cobb, Colburn, Daigle, Davis, Dawson, De Coster, Deering, Donham, Dunning, Esty, Field, Fitz, Fogg, Forhan, Fuller of Auburn, Fuller of Kennebec, Fuller of South Portland, Garcelon, Gardner, Gentleman, Girdler, Gordon, Gould, Grindle, Guernsey, Hahn, Harris, Hassell, Hill, Hix, Hopkins, Hutchings, Irving, Jellison, Jonhonnnet, Jones, Keefe, Kernon, Kilborn, King, Leavitt, Ledyard, Libbey of Albion, Libbey of South Berwick, Macfarlane, Macomber, Manley, Maxcy, Maxwell, McFaul, Melcher, Merrill of New Gloucester, Merrill of Skowhegan, Morey, Mosher, Murchie, Murphy, Nickerson of Orrington, Nickerson of Swanville, Noyes, Parkhurst, Peabody, Peaslee, Perkins, Philbrook, Pierce, Powers, Rankin, Reed, Ridlon, Rowell, Ryerson, Sargent of Portland, Sargent of Sedgwick, Sawyer, Smith of Hartland, Smith of Presque Isle, Somes, Spofford, Staples, Stetson of Bangor, Stetson of Monmouth, Sutherland, Taylor, Teel, Turner, Tyler, Virgin, Webb, Weed, West, Wilbur, Wilson of Cherryfield, Wilson of Gorham, Wilson of Minot, Wood—114.

Nays—Berry, Farnsworth, Jordan, McFadden, Porter—5.

Absent—Beath, Blackstone, Chamberlin, Coffin, Craig, Crane, Drummey, Eaton, Farrell, Freese, Goss, Harman, Hodgkins, Hughes, Hyde, Killoch, Laliberte, Parker, Plummer, Purinton, Sanborn, Spratt, Spurr, Thayer, Walker, Webster, Wilson of Brunswick, Woodbridge—28.

So the resolve received its passage to be enacted.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Special assignment: An act to prevent preference of creditors.

The bill was read a second time.

On motion by Mr. Hopkins, the rules were suspended, the bill was read the third time and was passed to be engrossed.

EQUALIZATION OF TAXATION.

Special assignment: Resolve, equalization of taxation.

Mr. CHASE of Portland: It seems to me that it would be well for us this morning in considering this question to come down from the eloquence and oratory in which we have been floating for the past 24 hours and possibly longer with reference to this matter, and consider calmly and dispassionately the precise question before us. I do not think the members of the House disagree in any particular upon the main question of the necessity of some revision and equalization of taxation in the State of Maine. I heartily subscribe to the views that have been offered, some of them by the gentlemen who have spoken upon this subject. I most certainly agree that there is a necessity for a revision and equalization of taxation in this State. But the question before us this morning is not upon theory; it is a condition and not a theory which we are called upon to face in considering the resolve now before the House. It is a specific proposition which we are called upon to face. I am opposed to the passage of this resolve, and I will state briefly my reasons.

In the first place, although I do not intend to raise the technical point, I consider that this whole matter is entirely out of order. This Legislature yesterday morning referred this whole subject matter of taxation to the next Legislature. This is a resolve bringing up again the same subject matter, and asking this House to make a different disposition of it, but I do not intend to raise that point and ask for a ruling upon it. It is upon the merits of the proposition that I wish to speak and it is upon the merits of the resolve that I shall object.

We have referred this matter by our vote of yesterday to the next Legislature. This is a proposition to appoint or construct a commission to investigate the subject of taxation and report to the next Legislature. I ask you, gentlemen, to consider in all candor and fairness what is to be gained of the resolve of the gentleman from Skowhegan (Mr. Merrill) should be given a passage? What does it mean? It means the appointment of a commission of seven members to go into this whole subject matter, holding meetings at the State House and spending all the time they may see fit to spend in the consideration of the matter, and to make a report of their recommendations to the next Legislature. Such a commission would have no power over the next Legislature, and whatever their findings and recommendations may be

they are mere recommendations which will be presented to the next Legislature. These recommendations will be referred to the committee on taxation in the next Legislature, and it is the committee on taxation of the next Legislature which must make its recommendations to the two Houses.

This whole subject matter, if gone over by such a commission as is proposed, must be all gone over again two years from now by the committee on taxation of the next Legislature. Is there any benefit to be derived from such a proceeding as is proposed by this resolve? It is simply plowing the ground over twice, and I submit that such a proceeding is simply time and money wasted. We may know something of the future; we may predict something of the future by the history of the past.

This subject has a history to which we may turn. In 1889 a commission was appointed for the very same purposes as are now proposed. This commission met and worked day after day and week after week and made a report to the next Legislature and what came of it? Not one thing but a dog tax, and this cost the State of Maine several thousand dollars. I ask you if the people in your several localities and the people of this State of Maine are not unalterably opposed to the creation of any more commissions? Commissions mean expense, and expense means taxation. The commission, which was appointed in 1889, was composed of three members, and that commission cost the State of Maine certainly \$5,000, a thousand dollars apiece. It is now proposed to appoint a commission of seven members, and the expense of such a commission would be from eight to ten thousand dollars, and perhaps fifteen thousand. Are we ready to vote this matter and settle upon the people of this State any such expense? I cannot see how any practical benefit can be derived from it.

Do you for a moment suppose that the taxation committee of the next Legislature are going to accept as a whole the proposition and adopt any recommendations of any taxation commission? Can they do it properly and justly and under their oaths? They would be obliged to investigate the matter for themselves and do this work all over again.

I object to this commission for another reason. Have you read carefully and considered carefully this resolve which you are asked to pass? Have you carefully considered the construction of this commission that is proposed? It is proposed to construct a Legislative commission in this way: The Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate are to appoint a committee, which, together with the Governor and Council, shall elect this commission. I think there is a grave doubt about the constitutionality of any such proposition.

This is supposed to be a Legislative commission, and to be elected by a committee appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, and the Governor and Council. The Governor and Council have no part in the

Legislative branch of the government of the State of Maine.

They are the executive branch, and I submit that there is a grave question about the constitutionality of such a commission, and I do not believe that this Legislature desires to take the risk of appointing a commission when such a question exists. This is not only my opinion, but it is the opinion of those who are competent to judge.

Another point. By the provisions of this resolve, there is to be upon this commission two men appointed who are not members of the Legislature, who are outside of and drawn into and incorporated into this Legislative commission. I submit that the proposition should not prevail for the reasons which I have stated, and it seems to me that we should consider this matter carefully and candidly, and I trust that the members of this House will not be stampeded into adopting and passing this resolve as it is.

Mr. MERRILL of Skowhegan: I shall not again feel it my duty to stand before the members of this House again to discuss, or in any way talk upon this subject; but the thought has struck me this morning, as the gentleman from Portland (Mr. Chase) has raised his objection to the passage of this resolve upon the ground of its unconstitutionality, that we have heard more about constitutional law in the last 36 hours, than we have heard before during the whole session of the Legislature, and it seems to me that it would be only fair to consider the matter. If this is an unconstitutional question, then this is not the body before which to try that question. If there is anything unconstitutional about it there is a court in the State of Maine whose duty it is to pass upon that question if it is ever brought before them. Will the gentleman please give to this body something that is better in place of this resolve; if he will I will gladly accept it.

Mr. CHASE: We have adopted one yesterday.

Mr. MERRILL: If he will give us something that is required by the people of this State to equalize the burdens of taxation I will gladly second it and help in carrying it out. I understand perfectly the spirit that is behind this proposition. It is not the question of expense to the State of Maine, because this resolve provides that there is no expense, or the only provision is for the actual expense that the committee shall be put to. There is no salary attached to it, and there is no pay attached to it. It is simply a question of expense and that is left in the hands of the Governor and Council. The gentleman says that it will cost from eight to ten thousand dollars. The only thing in this resolve that will carry any expense is the actual expense of that committee while they are in session at the various times; and surer than that, he objects to this on the constitutional ground that we are going outside of this body to appoint a committee; and with the permission of the gentleman, as I stated yesterday, I will add to this bill two business men outside of

this body, and with his permission I may say that the whole committee may be appointed from among the members of the two branches, and that committee shall be made up of two Democrats and five Republicans.

Mr. CHASE: Will the gentleman pardon me a moment, but I hold in my hand a copy of the resolve, the last sentence of which is, "The compensation for the services of said committee to be determined by the Governor and Council."

Mr. MERRILL: Very well. What does that mean? It means simply the expense and nothing else.

Mr. CHASE: It says for services.

Mr. MERRILL: Well, you can call it services or anything else. This resolve is before the House, and I am willing to submit this proposition to the members of this House.

Mr. PHILBROOK of Waterville: I have refrained from taking any part in this discussion, and it is with reluctance that I take any part in it now, and I presume if I should offer any objection to the passage of this resolve, it would be said that I was one of those who had some hidden motive for opposing it; and I want to say right here and now that I have tried to make my record on the floor of this House this winter so fair and above board that no man can impute to me any improper motive. (Applause.)

I am opposed to this resolve. I am opposed to it first because it is so hastily drawn that it presents all manner of imperfections in my judgment. Secondly, I am opposed to this resolve because it does not follow the line of precedent and rule of the House or law of the State, and thirdly I am opposed to this resolve because it has not got teeth enough in it to amount to anything.

Now, I should like to criticize so good a lawyer as my Brother Merrill, for he is one of the best lawyers in the State of Maine, but the very fact that the resolve is drawn containing these words, "Resolved, the Senate concurring" shows that the draughtsman was in such a hurry that the very commonest forms of expression were entirely disregarded. It may be said that that is a very slight thing.

It is a slight thing, so far as the words are concerned, but it is a slight thing as showing the haste with which we are trying to put through legislation at this very last moment of the session. This matter, as has been stated, comes up here absolutely out of order. There has not been a motion to suspend that rule of the House which requires that when once a matter has been voted upon by these bodies that it shall not again be considered in the same session. I say it is contrary to precedent and the House rules and the joint rules and the statute; I say that unless the joint rules of both bodies are suspended that we cannot put through this thing.

Here is another thing. There is no doubt in the mind of any man but that the 69th Legislature has the right to appoint a committee, or in other words, to delegate to a committee the power to hear witnesses and return reports of their findings to this House; but I sub-

mit not only as a proposition of law but as a proposition of sound sense, that it is not in the power of any Legislative body to delegate its authority completely as this act contemplates.

And I submit as another proposition that it is not competent for this House to appoint a committee to report to this Legislature after this Legislature is dead. The thing does not go. And I want to say right here that when this commission is appointed, and I say it at the risk of repetition, that I want a commission appointed which shall be a thoroughly legal commission. Ever since the State was inaugurated and ever since Legislatures have met here or in Portland, there has been an established way of getting a commission and this is so far away from that established way that I submit that it of itself carries a question as to whether it is wise, or not.

Now as to the matter of compensation. Here is another utter disregard not only of the rules of common judgment, but the statutes of the State. Will any gentleman explain to me in regard to the statute which says that no member of this Legislature shall receive any compensation except that now established by law? Will any gentleman explain to me how a committee of the 69th Legislature is to be compensated by this or any other bill until you repeal the statute? These things, I admit, are of practically small importance, but I object to this. When the committee upon the subject of taxation or a commission or any other body tackles this subject, the most vital that has been before this or any previous Legislature for years, I want that body to be able to do something, but I do not want a commission that can come here and sit under the dome of this State House and smoke cigars and read reports and talk and do nothing else. I want a commission that is able to say by the force of the law to any corporation or any body of men that they must come before that commission and testify if they are called upon to do it. I want a commission that shall have power to say to these corporations: "We have the right to call you in here and to look into your business and see what you are doing, and see what your franchises are worth to you that the State is giving to you year after year." But, gentlemen, this resolve has not the power necessary to draw a baby cart. You may be able to call witnesses before you, but you cannot compel them to show a book or a paper. You may discuss that thing among yourselves, but that resolve does not give you the power to do anything. I only wish that the Almighty had given me the wisdom in the closing hours of this session to dictate a measure that would meet all the requirements of the State of Maine, but He has not done it, and I frankly confess my inability to grasp the question at the present time. And I as frankly state with an apology to the gentleman from Skowhegan, that I do not think that the resolve that he has drawn accomplishes the purpose which is asked for by the taxpayers of the State of Maine, and I therefore shall move the indefinite postponement of the resolve. (Applause).

Mr. GUERNSEY of Dover: I am profoundly impressed at this moment, in the dying days of this Legislature to see the representatives of the people rise in their seats and take an active interest in that forgotten man, that unknown man at this capital, that stranger in these halls of legislation that most important man that we knew in September, and the most important man that we will know in September, 1901, that forgotten man, the taxpayer of the State of Maine.

We have appropriated more than \$200,000 a year greater than his income from all sources and have issued notes to make up the difference between the income and expenditures; and not only that but we shall hire \$50,000 in order to make the payment of \$50,000 on the bonded indebtedness of the State. We have announced all over this State that the former tax rate of two and three-fourths mills will not be increased, yet, I say to you that when we maintain that rate and issue notes bearing interest to pay the difference, and say to the tax-payers that their tax is no greater it is a deception and a fraud.

I believe that greater economy in State expenditures is possible and that the question of unequal taxation is not the only question involved. I believe that unnecessary taxation is equally as unjust.

I believe that a reduction of \$200,000 annually can be saved in the expenditures of the government without impairing public service. I believe that a reduction in the expenditures of government is just as important as the search for more property to be taxed.

In 1820 the valuation of this State was a little over \$20,000,000. Seventy years later that valuation had increased to \$200,000,000; 10 years later in 1899 we find the valuation has increased to \$329,000,000; that it has been marked up near \$100,000,000 in 10 years while the population of the State has remained practically stationary, and, I believe that the valuation of the State has not materially increased from the fact that while perhaps one-half of the property in the State has enhanced in value the other half of the property of the State has depreciated in value. The same process of marking up values by the stroke of the pen would enable every corporation, every firm, every individual, now a bankrupt to become solvent.

Now, don't misunderstand me, I do not mean to say that the present valuation is unfair, but I do say it is a full valuation and I am supported by the fact that the State assessors have sat in their office and figured and travelled all over this State throughout the whole year, and have found but little over a million dollars of property to increase the value of the State. The original intent of raising the valuation was to give relief, but it has been used, in fact as a mask for higher taxation. In 1889 on a valuation of three hundred and twenty-nine million of dollars we pay a tax of two and three-fourths mills; in 1899 on a valuation of three hundred and twenty-nine million of dollars we pay a tax of two and three-fourths mills. That increase in value has increased the income of the State nearly \$275,000, and additional taxes drawn from the tax payers. That additional tax has been absorbed to a great extent by in-

creased salaries, and by the extension of far from economical public contracts.

There is a system of public service contracts in this State which at their present rate draw nearly \$100,000 annually from the public funds. Two well-known contracts, the State's prison lights and water, will from their beginning to their expiration, which is fixed, draw nearly \$100,000 from the public treasury. Now, do not misunderstand me, I do not mean any reflection on the Executive of this State of the present administration as being to blame for this increase for I believe the present administration has been exceedingly economical, but I do say that the members of this Legislature and of previous Legislatures are alone to blame for what I believe to be this extravagance and increase in the public expenditures. As I said before while I believe the two measures now pending before this House are steps in the right direction, yet, I also believe it is equally important that we take steps to see whether or not greater economy cannot be made in the expenditures of the government. I refer to this now, as a little later I shall offer a resolution covering a proposition which I believe will lead to greater economy in the government.

Mr. GARDNER of Patten: I move that the resolve lie on the table.

A division being had on the motion, the motion was lost by a vote of 11 for to 79 against.

The question being on the indefinite postponement of the resolve.

Mr. MANLEY of Augusta: I have been surprised at the conduct of the gentleman from Skowhegan (Mr. Merrill) yesterday and today. Yesterday with his power and eloquence, which I wish I possessed, he talked to this House about stifling. He had much to say about members being stifled, and he then brought in an order, which he ought to have known had not the power of the paper upon which it was written. In the afternoon he changed it to a resolve without asking to have it printed so that no member could see what his resolve was, in violation of a rule which cannot amount to anything unless both the House and Senate agree to it, and containing in it a proposition which if the Senate alone voted against it, it was void.

Now, I must confess I was amazed at so able and distinguished lawyer as he is, that he should take that ground. Yesterday morning he was anxious to have the equalization of taxation and then he attempted to show why taxes were not equalized by the condition of affairs in Skowhegan. He certainly ought to have been familiar with affairs in Skowhegan, but he made a very grave mistake about the woolen mills in Skowhegan.

I do not believe he would have made it for the world, except through thoughtlessness, but it was a serious mistake because he placed the value which was not only the value of the mill and its machinery but of its stock in process of manufacture, which is a very different thing from the sale of the mill itself. But it is not that that I object to. The

gentleman from Skowhegan was pleased to say that some of us know the motive that was back of this. Now, I have never questioned any man's motive. I do not question the motive of the gentleman from Skowhegan.

I said to this House with great frankness some weeks ago when this order was under consideration that I had the authority of the largest corporation in this State to pledge to this Legislature, that at the time they should take up this question at the commencement of the Legislature, that corporation would not only not oppose the investigation but would come forward cheerfully to aid it. I said I had the authority to make it and I repeat it again today. They are not attempting to escape their taxation. They are willing to be taxed upon terms of equality with all men, but we all know that this equality does not exist in the State rate of taxation. If you want to go to the root of the matter, tax the rich men in the cities and towns who escape their taxation now. Go to the root of this thing, and meet this thing squarely and tax all alike; and I say to you that the Maine Central Railroad will be as earnest to work for that as the gentleman from Skowhegan, or anyone else. Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, we put ourselves on record. We settled this question. We voted to refer this to the next Legislature, and we have no right to reconsider this thing again unless the joint rules of this Legislature are repealed or suspended for that purpose. Supposing the rules were suspended; the gentleman asks for a commission that has no power whatever.

Do you suppose men are going to spend their time for two years in running around to a set of men, no matter who they are, that have no power to take testimony or make any record of what they do, and when they come to the Legislature, the Legislature will say and has always said in the past, "We do not care anything for your commission. We are competent to settle this question ourselves. We will take them up and examine them and go through them thoroughly." And the Legislature having the power to summons any man or any corporation or any private individual to appear before it, and bring its books and papers is a legal tribunal which can get at this whole question and settle it.

Now I am not going to stand here in opposition to any thorough system for the equalization of taxation. I believe in it thoroughly. I know that if it was done that I should not have to pay half as much as I pay now, and I also know other men who would not, and from a selfish point I am in favor of it.

It is the thing that is established by the constitution of the State, but I want to get at it in the right way. I do not want a commission spending two years or one year and nine months with no authority whatever, and then bring in a large bill and add it to the expense. I think this can best be accomplished by the joint vote which is passed, and certainly it cannot be considered unless we suspend the joint rules.

Mr. MERRILL, of Skowhegan: We are now told that this great corporation, the Maine Central Railroad Company came in here the first of the term.

Mr. MANLEY: I beg your pardon. I did not say the first of the term. I said a few weeks ago.

Mr. MERRILL: And that they were very anxious and willing to have the whole matter of taxation investigated, and that they would lend their aid in that behalf. The gentleman so stated upon the floor, and he has also referred to the statements that I made, yesterday, upon the floor of this House. I defy any man to read the remarks that I have made and find one word against the Maine Central Railroad or any other corporation; and I say now that I believe that if there were a thorough investigation and bringing to light of property that is within the State, it would be a means of reducing the taxation upon that great corporation.

It is not a question that the property that is in sight has not been taxed, wholly, but it is the property that is out of sight and that is not taxed at all that we want to get at here.

I believe this is a question that has been sufficiently discussed, and I believe you are ready and willing to vote upon it, and I hope that all this talk that has been made in regard to the unconstitutionality of this resolve, and that line of talk, will be taken for what it is worth.

Mr. VIRGIN of Portland: I want to make a very few remarks upon this question and it is a practical question that appeals to every member of this House, and in considering it I have no doubt that we all wish to reach a practical result. I do not question the motives of the gentleman from Skowhegan (Mr. Merrill) or the gentleman from Patten (Mr. Gardner) or any other gentleman on the floor of this House, and I do not expect they will question my motives.

This is a great question and should be considered carefully, and I have heard with pleasure the remarks of the gentleman from Skowhegan, that if any claim can be presented that will accomplish the result, he will be glad to adopt it.

Now, the fundamental law of this State provides that where any public expenses have been assessed, a general valuation shall be taken, at least once in 10 years. In 1891 there was a general valuation, as you may verify by looking in the laws of that year. The next 10 years will expire in 1901, and it will be the duty of the next Legislature to go into this question, whether you appoint this commission now, or not; and I have no doubt at that time they will go into the matter thoroughly, and the matter will then be sifted and taken care of as it should be taken care of.

We have heard on the floor of this House that in 1889 a commission was appointed to sift this entire question. The commission was appointed and it held its sessions. It sifted the material that was brought before it. The Legislature of 1891 created a Board of State Assessors. It was their duty to equalize the State tax among the several towns and fix the valuation of real and personal estates on which taxes should be levied, and it was

in two years to see if there had been any property left untaxed according to its true valuation. I submit that you have a tribunal under the law created for the very purpose intended to be covered by this resolve. If anybody knows of any property that is not taxed, it is the duty of that person to make known those facts to the State assessors. If this resolve has a passage it is a reflection upon that Board of State Assessors.

The question being on the indefinite postponement of the resolve,

The motion was agreed to.

On motion by Mr. Virgin, the resolve in regard to investigating taxation and to report to the next Legislature, was taken from the table.

On motion by Mr. Chase of Portland, the resolve was indefinitely postponed.

A resolution was offered by Mr. Guernsey requiring the Governor, by the consent of the Council, to appoint a commission to investigate and see what reduction can be made in the expenditures of the government without impairing public service, said commission to examine the public contracts now in existence and all public expenses of other classes.

The Speaker recognized Mr. GUERNSEY, who made the following remarks: I offer this resolution at this time as I have learned from experience and believe the expenditures of the government cannot be curtailed by any other method. At the beginning of this session I saw the members of this House vote away on a single bill nearly all the money that could possibly come from the estimated income of the State for the present year. The next important act that was taken was when a soldier asked for a \$12 overcoat, and the House vote was taken, and the cries of "No" were so fierce that that bill was actually blown from the Speaker's desk.

The reasons for the vote on the first appropriation bill as given to me by the members afterwards was that they supposed all the amounts were fixed by law and that no action of theirs could change them, that they were new members and knew very little about it. I believe if a commission was appointed that could report and lay before the next Legislature, which will be composed largely of new members, substantial recommendations in regard to the reduction of the expenditures of the government so that when the first appropriation bill is brought before them they can act understandingly, and make this reduction and not be obliged to vote on a bill which may be brought in at night, and they be called upon to vote on, the next morning. Unless something of this kind is done, each succeeding Legislature will vote for a larger and larger appropriation bill at the beginning of the session, which has been the experience of Legislatures for the past 10 years, and further than that, these recommendations can cover the second appropriation bill which is to be brought before you in the closing hours of this Legislature, and which I say to you now needs to be more carefully scanned than the first appropriation, which we voted on at the beginning of this session.

I trust that there are members here,

enough of them, to vote on this proposition at this time and represent for once, at least, as I believe, the best interests of the people and the taxpayers of the State of Maine.

The objection has been raised to the other propositions for the commissions that they would carry heavy expenses for service; the present resolution does not provide a dollar for services, only such as are required for actual expenditures.

Mr. Macomber moved that the resolve be indefinitely postponed.

A division being had, the motion was agreed to by a vote of 70 for to 20 against.

The order that the committee on agriculture make their final report this morning, came from the Senate indefinitely postponed.

The House reconsidered its action and concurred with the Senate in the indefinite postponement of the order.

PASSED TO BE ENACTED.

An act to amend sections 3 and 6, of chapter 51, of the Revised Statutes, relating to the organization of railroad companies under the general law.

An act to amend sections 3 and 6, of chapter 268, of the Public Laws of 1893, as amended by chapter 84, of the Public Laws of 1895, and chapter 249, of the Public Laws of 1897, relating to the organization and control of street railroads.

An act to amend chapter 11, of the Private Laws of 1899, entitled "an act to annex the city of Deering to Portland.

An act to incorporate the Mount Pleasant Cemetery Association of South Portland.

An act authorizing the Lewiston, Brunswick and Bath Railroads and the Portsmouth and York Street Railway to increase their capital stock.

An act to prevent the killing of tern.

An act to amend the charter of the Ossipee Valley Telegraph and Telephone Company.

An act to prevent the taking of smelts in drag seines in the waters of Buck's harbor and Lawrence bay in the town of Brooksville.

An act to incorporate the Woolwich Village Corporation.

An act to amend section 59, chapter 3, of the Revised Statutes, relating to town, city and village by-laws and ordinances.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

On motion by Mr. Beal of Bangor, bill relating to the board of agriculture, was taken from the table.

Mr. BEAL: I move that this bill have its first reading. This bill is the result of the committee's long, hard, and tedious work—the special committee appointed by a special order of the House. I am not here to impugn the motives of any man in any part of the State or to use any harsh words in regard to any department, nor to take from the farming element of the State one thing which they have to-day. I was born upon a farm myself, and I come from an ancestry of farmers, and I yield to no man in this House in my respect for and my desire to do good to the farmers. This bill protects that class in what it is their right to have. This bill asks for the election by the

Legislature, on and after two years from this time, the secretary of the board of agriculture. It is the unanimous opinion of the committee that this should be done. He is at the head of one of the great departments in the State; he uses more money than any other except the treasurer of the State. How is he elected today? Every agricultural society in a county shall have five delegates who shall select a member for that county on the board of agriculture. Those delegates meet once in three years to elect a secretary of the board. The purposes of this proposed bill is to have the secretary elected by the Legislature as all other heads of departments in the State are elected. It cannot be said that any man would be afraid to come to the Legislature for his election where the members come fresh from the people.

The bill asks for a reduction in the number of agricultural reports printed. Today there are 12,000 printed each year, 6000 of them are sent to the members of the Legislature, 6000 more are sent to the farmers throughout the State after deducting some for exchanges. The committee thought that the farmers should have all of them they ever had, but that the members of the Legislature did not require 25 books apiece each year, but they thought that eight or ten would be sufficient, which would reduce the expenses some three or four thousand dollars.

The bill changes the wording of the law of 1897 to some extent. That law practically gave the secretary large authority over streets, highways and bridges, etc., and for that it appropriated \$500. The \$500 seems to have been used, but I fail to find in the report of the secretary where one cent has been spent for the benefit of roads, except in 1896, when \$50 was so expended. Then the law says that the secretary may employ experts, lecturers or reporters, "or other aid," to increase the usefulness of the farmers' institutes. The committee asked the secretary, when he expended money for brass bands, etc., and for sending a man to New York with butter made by a private individual and paid his expenses amounting to \$38.26, and for such things—they asked him where he got his authority. He said that he considered that the words "or other aid" gave him the right to employ anything that in his opinion would be of benefit to the farmers. The only question there is, is it of benefit to the farmers? If so, it may be construed that Barnum's circus should be hired next summer to interest the farmers. I do not claim that the secretary has any bad motive or that he means to do anything but what he considers right.

In his report, on page five, he says that the expense of institutes for the year 1897 was \$1035.21. The committee thought it wise, if there was no need for more than \$1000 for institute work, that they would allow him \$2000. The appropriation each year for the annual meeting of the board of agriculture is \$450. That includes all expenses of that meeting. The law is that no member shall receive any compensation for time and services but shall

be reimbursed for expenses at the rate of \$2 a day and six cents a mile for travel. The secretary construed that to mean that they should have that during the time they were working in the institute meetings. This year I find that they received \$12 apiece for six days, instead of going according to the old law as it was and receiving \$4 for two days. It is to correct those things that this bill is proposed. I hope the motion to indefinitely postpone will not prevail.

Mr. DeCOSTER of Buckfield: This question interests every agriculturalist in the State. This proposed law says that the delegates from the agricultural societies of the various counties shall not have the privilege of electing, what? Their secretary. Who knows best whom they want to fill that position? Why don't you say that the cattle commissioners shall not have the privilege of choosing their secretary? They handle thousands of dollars of money from the treasury. Why not say that the board of health shall not have the privilege of choosing their secretary? I say there is something back of this. The whole question is simply upon the election of the secretary of the board. The gentleman from Bangor (Mr. Beal) has attempted to show that something has been done that perhaps was not right. I hope the cattle commissioners in this State today have a clear conscience in that respect. (Laughter and applause.)

When you take the election of the secretary of the board of agriculture out of the hands of the agriculturalists of the State, you are taking a step in the wrong direction. I hope you will vote to indefinitely postpone this bill.

Mr. HILL of Belfast: This proposition to elect the secretary of the board of Agriculture by the Legislature was not a proposition made by any member of the cattle commission. It has come from many farmers of the State. The members of the Legislature come here from every part of the State, and they represent the needs and sentiment of the State, and they can be safely trusted to elect the head of a department which expends as much money as this one does. We believe that the affairs of the department will be more economically administered if he is elected by the Legislature. It is not denied that there has been extravagance in the administration if that department. I have no feeling against the secretary of the board of agriculture, but the farmers of this State do not desire to have extravagance going on in their name. I hope that the motion to indefinitely postpone will not prevail.

Mr. BENNETT of Hollis: This whole matter was started by the order of the gentleman from Bangor (Mr. Beal). There is a tail-piece to that order, to inquire whether it is necessary to have any longer a secretary of the board of agriculture. The principal objection that I have to this bill is the manner in which the secretary shall be chosen. I do not see why the present method is not as fair as it would be to throw it into the House and Senate. In regard to the expenses of this board, I think likely the secretary has made some mistakes. I think there are

many of the departments in this State that would bear considerable scrutiny, but I think the secretary of the board has made a fair and honest statement. These institutes are valuable things, and I hope that nothing will be done to cripple them.

Mr. WILSON of Cherryfield: If the secretary was responsible to this Legislature for his election there are many things in his report that never would have occurred. For instance, one thing is the fact that whenever they see fit to oppose a bill pending before any committee they employ counsel and witnesses and pay them out of the State's money. It is for such reasons as that that I think the proper way to solve the problem is to have the secretary elected by the Legislature.

The question being on the motion to indefinitely postpone,

Mr. Gentleman of Porter, called for for the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

YEAS—Bennett, Berry, Brown of Warren, Chamberlain, Cleveland, Cobb, Colburn, Craig, Daigle, Davis, DeCoster, Donham, Dunning, Farnsworth, Fogg, Forhan, Fuller of South Portland, Gentleman, Girdler, Gould, Grindel, Harris, Hutchings, Irving, Jellison, Johnson, Jordan, Kalloch, Kilborn, Ledyard, Macomber, Maxcy, McFadden, Merrill of New Gloucester, Mosher, Nickerson of Orrington, Noyes, Perkins, Philbrook, Pierce, Porter, Purinton, Reed, Ridlon, Rowell, Sawyer, Smith of Hartland, Smith of Presque Isle, Spofford, Spratt, Spurr, Staples, Stetson of Monmouth, Taylor, Turner, Virgin, Walker, Wilbur, Wilson of Gorham, Wilson of Minot, Woodbridge

NAYS—Abbott, Adams, Beal, Belleau, Bird, Bridgman, Britton, Brown of Falmouth, Bryant, Buck, Burns, Carr, Cartrel, Deering, Eaton, Field, Fitz, Fuller of Auburn, Fuller of Kennebunk, Garcelon, Gardner, Gordon, Hahn, Hassell, Hill, Hix, Hodgkins, Hopkins, Hyde, Jones, Keefe, Kernon, King, Leavitt, Libby of Albion, Libby of South Berwick, Macfarlane, Maxwell, McFaul, Melcher, Morey, Murchie, Murphy, Nickerson of Swanville, Parkhurst, Peabody, Peaslee, Powers, Rankin, Ryerson, Sargent of Portland, Sargent of Sedgwick, Sutherland, Teel, Tyler, Weed, West, Wilson of Brunswick, Wilson of Cherryfield, Wood—60.

ABSENT—Beath, Blackstone, Bodwell, Brimmer, Chase, Chick, Coffin, Crane, Dawson, Drummey, Esty, Farrell, Freese, Goss, Guernsey, Harman, Hughes, Lalberte, Manley, Merrill of Skowhegan, Parker, Plummer, Sanborn, Somes, Thayer, Webb, Webster—27.

So the bill was indefinitely postponed. Mr. Virgin of Portland, moved to reconsider the vote.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Beal of Bangor, the order, that on and after the session of this day, all debates shall be limited to five minutes upon any subject, to any one member, was taken from the table and given a passage.

On motion of Mr. Perkins of Cornish, bill an act in relation to political caucuses in towns was taken from the table.

Same gentleman offered House amendment D, which was adopted. Mr. Leavitt of Eastport, offered House amendment E, which was rejected. Mr. Perkins of Cornish, offered House amendment F, which was adopted. Mr. Peaslee of Wiscasset, moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed. Subsequently the motion was withdrawn. The bill was then passed to be engrossed as amended by House amendments A, B, C, D and F.

On motion of Mr. Brown of Falmouth, report of the special committee appointed to ascertain how many reports of the several departments are printed each year, and the cost of the same, and to recommend to the Legislature how many it is desirable to have printed, was taken from the table and accepted.

Under the order of the House passed, March the following matters were taken from the table:

Bill an act to amend section 29 of chapter 24 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 31 of the Public Laws of 1887, and as further amended by chapter 303 of the Public Laws of 1897, relating to the support of paupers in unincorporated places.

Pending first reading, Mr. King of Caribou, moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed. The motion prevailed.

Bill an act for the detection of criminals, was read a second time. On motion of Mr. Hutchings of Brewer, rules were suspended, bill read the third time and passed to be engrossed.

Report of the committee on legal affairs reporting ought to pass on bill relating to the jurisdiction of municipal cases.

The report was accepted and bill read once. Mr. Hopkins of Deering, offered House amendment A. Pending its adoption, Mr. Chase of Portland, moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed. House amendment A was adopted. The motion to indefinitely postpone the bill prevailed by a vote on division of 37 to 15.

Bill an act additional to section 96 of chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes, relating to abatement of taxes.

On motion of Mr. Chase of Portland, the bill was indefinitely postponed in non-concurrence.

Ordered, the House concurring, that all committees which have not already finally reported, shall make their final reports forthwith.

On motion of Mr. Philbrook of Waterville, the order was indefinitely postponed in non-concurrence.

Bill an act to amend section 8, chapter 24, of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 326 of the Laws of 1897, relating to soldiers.

On motion of Mr. Bird of Rockland, the bill was indefinitely postponed.

Bill an act to regulate the admission to practice of attorneys, solicitors and counselors, to provide for a board of examiners, and to repeal conflicting acts.

Mr. Smith of Presque Isle, offered House amendments A and B, which were adopted. Mr. Parkhurst of Bangor, offered House amendment C, which was also adopted. The bill was then passed to be engrossed as amended by House amendments A, B and C.

Bill an act to locate Androscoggin pond in some county and town.

Mr. Belleau of Lewiston, moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed. Mr. Hill of Belfast, moved that the bill be referred to the next Legislature. Pending action on this motion the bill was tabled on motion of Mr. Macomber of Augusta, and assigned to afternoon for its consideration.

Bill an act to amend section 3 of chapter 242 of the Public Laws of 1893, as amended by chapter 111 of the Public Laws of 1895, relating to free public libraries.

On motion of Mr. Brown of Falmouth, the bill was re-tabled and this afternoon assigned for its consideration.

Bill an act relating to the expenses of State officials and employes.

Mr. King of Caribou, offered House amendment A. Pending its adoption, on motion of Mr. Macomber of Augusta, the bill was indefinitely postponed.

Bill an act to amend chapter 45 of the Revised Statutes, relating to interest.

On motion of Mr. King of Caribou, the bill was indefinitely postponed.

An act to incorporate the Lisbon and Topsham Water Company.

Was passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

An act to amend section 5 of chapter 56 of the Revised Statutes, relating to agriculture.

On motion by Mr. Macomber of Augusta, the bill was indefinitely postponed.

On motion by Mr. Macomber, Adjourned.

AF. RNOON SESSION.

PAPERS FROM THE SENATE.

Report of committee on conference in regard to order fixing final adjournment on or before 12 o'clock Friday night, reporting ought to pass.

The House concurred with the Senate in accepting the report.

Resolve in favor of the committee on the Bath Military and Naval Orphan Asylum.

This resolve came from the Senate passed to be engrossed under suspension of the rules.

On motion by Mr. Philbrook, the rules were suspended, the resolve was read twice and was passed to be engrossed.

Resolve in favor of the stenographers and typewriters to the presiding and recording officers of the Senate and House. In Senate passed to be engrossed under suspension of the rules.

On motion by Mr. Philbrook, the rules were suspended, the resolve was read twice and was passed to be engrossed.

Resolve in favor of the messenger to the committee on inland fisheries and game.

In Senate indefinitely postponed.

On motion by Mr. King of Caribou, the House concurred with the Senate in the indefinite postponement of the resolve.

An act to regulate the admission to practice of attorneys, solicitors and counselors and to provide for a board of examiners and to repeal conflicting acts.

In Senate amended by amendment 1 to House amendment B.

The House reconsidered its action whereby the bill was passed to be engrossed, and non-concurred with the Senate in adopting amendment 1 to House amendment B.

Mr. Smith offered House amendment 1 to House amendment B, which was adopted, and the bill was then passed to be engrossed as amended.

Bill in regard to the detection of criminals, came from the Senate indefinitely postponed.

The House receded from its action whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed, and concurred with the Senate in its indefinite postponement.

An act to prevent a preference of creditors, came from the Senate indefinitely postponed.

The House receded from its action whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed, and concurred with the Senate in its indefinite postponement.

An act in relation to the support of paupers in unincorporated plantations, came from the Senate, the Senate insisting on its action.

On motion by Mr. King the House adhered to its action.

Resolve in favor of a building for the Maine Industrial School for Girls.

In Senate amended by Senate amendment "A" in non-currence.

The House receded from its action whereby this bill was indefinitely postponed, and concurred with the Senate in the adoption of Senate amendment "A."

The resolve was then read once.

On motion by Mr. Macomber the rules were suspended, the resolve was read twice and was passed to be engrossed, as amended.

Resolve in favor of the messenger to the committee on railroads, telegraphs and expresses, the messenger to the committee on inland fisheries and game, the messenger to the committee on sea and shore fisheries and to temporary assistant to the librarian.

Mr. Chase offered amendment "A" and "B," which were adopted, and on motion by Mr. Chase the resolve was passed to be engrossed under suspension of the rules.

An act to amend chapter 42 of the Public Laws of 1899.

In Senate amended by Senate amendment "A."

The House reconsidered the votes whereby this bill was passed to be enacted and passed to be engrossed. Senate amendment "A" was adopted, and this bill was then passed to be engrossed as amended.

An act for the better protection of sheep in the town of Perry.

In Senate amended by Senate amendment "A."

The House reconsidered the votes whereby this bill was passed to be enacted and passed to be engrossed. Senate amendment "A" was adopted and the bill was then passed to be engrossed as amended.

Resolve on the pay roll of the Senate.

In Senate passed to be engrossed under suspension of the rules.

The resolve was read once.

On motion by Mr. Manley, the rules were suspended, the resolve was read a second time and was passed to be engrossed.

An act to render optional the use of seals on deeds and other contracts.

In Senate indefinitely postponed.

On motion by Mr. Hopkins of Deering, the House adhered to its action referring the bill to the next Legislature.

Mr. Chick of Clifton presented the following order:

Ordered: The Senate concurring, that the employees under the superintendent of public buildings receive the same compensation as two years ago.

On motion by Mr. Wood of Camden the order was indefinitely postponed.

PASSED TO BE ENACTED.

An act regulating caucuses in the City of Biddeford.

An act to amend section 17 of chapter 123 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 2 of chapter 233, of the Public Laws of 1899, relating to tramps.

An act establishing the Maine Industrial School for Girls.

An act to amend section 1 of chapter 293 of the Public Laws of 1899, as amended by the Public Laws of 1899, relating to hawkers and peddlers.

An act to amend chapter 266 of the Public Laws of 1893, relating to the militia.

An act to incorporate the Kennebec Water District.

An act to incorporate the St. Croix Water Power Company.

Resolve in favor of the Maine Industrial School for Girls.

Resolves authorizing a temporary loan for the year 1900.

Resolve in favor of Estate of F. H. Eaton.

REGULAR ORDER.

An act relating to free public libraries. On motion by Mr. Brown of Falmouth, this bill was indefinitely postponed.

An act to locate Androscoggin pond in some county and town.

On motion by Mr. Belleau of Lewiston, this bill was indefinitely postponed.

Resolve on the pay roll of the House.

On motion by Mr. Manley the rules were suspended, the resolve was read twice and was passed to be engrossed.

PASSED TO BE ENACTED.

An act to amend chapter 42 of the Public Laws of 1899.

An act for the better protection of sheep in the town of Perry.

An act to repeal section 5 of chapter 306 of the Public Laws of 1897 relating to taxes on wild lands.

FINALLY PASSED.

Resolve laying a tax on the counties of the State for the years 1899 and 1900.

Mr. MOREY of Lewiston: At this time I desire to introduce the following resolve:

Resolved, That the members of this House extend at this time their thanks to the speaker and their appreciation of the just, able and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations at this session. (Applause.)

MR. MANLEY OF AUGUSTA.

Mr. Clerk and Gentlemen: The time has come for this session to close. A little less than three months ago we met as comparative strangers. We part as friends. We can all with truth declare,—there has been no animosity of debate, no angry words uttered, no intense feeling aroused, no prejudice excited. For once, at least, members of the two great political parties who contend at the proper time for the control of government, have acted upon this floor in perfect harmony. By no vote given or word uttered could we know that there was any party difference; and this is a high tribute to the members of this House. We have all risen above party, and every member has acted as his judgment dictated for the best interests of our State.

It is a wise provision of nature that we all view every question from our own standpoint, as it is the natural order for mankind to be upon friendly terms with one another. If we are all engaged in a common purpose to uphold the welfare, credit and honor of our State, it can but tend to increase the world's respect and admiration. Emerson so beautifully expresses it when he says: "We have a great deal more kindness than is ever spoken," and we all know that "the only way to have a friend is to be one," and that "life is no life without friends."

Five years ago Du Maurier wrote "Trilby," which had a marvelous sale. It was read by millions in every section of the world. Its strength, its power, its beauty lay in the true picture of friendship which it graphically described. Its characters were all human. They were not saints. They were afflicted with the weaknesses of mankind; but the strength of friendship between Taffy, The Laird, and Little Billee was told with so much truth, pathos and power that it will ever be fresh in the minds of those who delight to read the English language.

Our speaker is entitled to our thanks, to our praise, to the warm regard of

our friendship. He has presided over the deliberations of this body with absolute fidelity, with great courtesy,—always affable and considerate. He has won our profound esteem; and we all extend to him the wish that the remainder of his life may be as bright, as successful, and as happy as he has been felicitous and just in discharging his duties as speaker of this body.

Let me add my heartfelt wishes that life may bring to you, one and all, every blessing, and let me close as Du Maurier closed his beautiful story of Trilby,

"A little work, a little play
To keep us going—and so, good day!

A little warmth, a little light
Of love's bestowing—and so, good night!

A little fun, to match the sorrow
Of each day's growing—and so, good morrow!

A little trust, that when we die
We reap our sowing; and so, good bye."

(Applause.)

MR. PHILBROOK OF WATERVILLE.

Mr. Clerk: I am sure, gentlemen of the House, that I should not have discharged my final duty to myself if I did not take this opportunity to add, in the most emphatic terms, my endorsement of all that has been said regarding the presiding officer of the House of the 69th Legislature. I have been placed in peculiar relations with Colonel Stetson, so peculiar and so delicate that it would not be in good taste for me to enlarge here upon the subject. Suffice it for me to say that at no time during the many years during which I have known Colonel Stetson have I ever found him less than a true gentleman; and during the years and the months which have passed there has arisen between him and myself, I trust, a peculiarly tender feeling of friendship and regard which I know—I speak advisedly—the experience of these 12 weeks has made more enduring.

To you, Mr. Speaker, I tender my heartfelt thanks for the courtesies I have received, not only during the 12 weeks now drawing to a close, but during the months and the years of our mutual acquaintance and friendship. And my most earnest prayer for

you is that your life may be long, and that you may be surrounded by all the joys and the blessings which come to one who, like yourself, earns and is entitled to them. (Applause.)

MR. SMITH OF PRESQUE ISLE.

Mr. Clerk: An enforced vacation of the last ten days has about taken out of me what life and energy I had, and yet I feel that I cannot permit this session of the Legislature to close without attempting to make a few remarks.

I do not believe that the Legislature of Maine ever had a speaker who has tried harder to discharge his duties faithfully and to be more impartial than the present speaker. I say he has tried, and I believe he has succeeded to the satisfaction of every member of this House.

It is with mingled feelings of sorrow and gladness that I witness the final close of this session, sorrow because I must soon part from the many pleasant acquaintances I have made during this session, so many of which have already ripened into warm friendships, as I trust that they all will; glad because with the last tap of the speaker's gavel, closes my legislative career. And I am not sorry. For two sessions, as a member of the 68th Legislature and the 69th, both on the floor of this House and in the committee room I have endeavored to faithfully and impartially discharge the duties that devolved upon me without fear or favor. How well I have succeeded you and my constituents must determine.

We came here, as the gentleman from Augusta (Mr. Manley) said, as strangers. We came here with many differences of opinion. We have differed on many things; and yet after all, gentlemen, who knows but what we all may have been right? In the terminal station at the World's Fair ground in Chicago, into which I drifted one day, my attention was attracted to a large number of clocks arranged around the quadrangle of the roof of that massive building, and I discovered on consulting my watch that those clocks did not harmonize with my own time-piece, and I wondered what the cause could be. I looked again above one of those clocks

and I saw written the word "Jerusalem;" above another, "Cairo;" above another, "Hong Kong;" above another, "Lisbon;" above another, "Madrid;" above another, "Paris;" above another, "London;" above another, "New York;" and so on, and the mystery was explained. Each clock was keeping the time of the city which it represented. Each clock was exactly right according to the meridian on which the city it represented was located. And the thought came to me then, as it has occurred to me often, who knows but what after all that in all matters on which we differ we may all be right; that our differences of opinion may simply depend on the standpoint from which we view things.

We have all tried at this session, I have no doubt, to faithfully and impartially discharge each and every duty that has come to us. We have all come here with honest convictions. We have all tried to do just right. We have passed a great many bills. We have passed a great many appropriation bills. We have made many large appropriations. Yet I do not believe that there is a man in this House who has voted for any bill, appropriation or otherwise, that he did not believe to be perfectly fair and right. I have voted for one bill, this session, the largest appropriation bill we have passed this session, which two years ago, I felt it my duty to oppose and did oppose, for the reason that the financial conditions of the State two years ago, were different then from what they are today. Two years ago, the State of Maine was under a dark cloud of financial gloom and distress, and no one knew when that cloud would lift. I then felt that we had better postpone all action until we could see a rift in the clouds. But this session, to my mind, those conditions have changed, for, thanks to the magnificent administration of President McKinley, thanks to the Dingley tariff bill—the great work of the mighty dead—the golden sunlight of a renewed prosperity is once more beginning to shine upon the hills and the mountains of the grand old State of Maine, and to reach down into the valleys thereof and spread out into the plains, and I believe that we are now near the open

sea of a new prosperity. Hence, I thought we could safely vote the money necessary to carry on the work of that new home for those unfortunate people who, under the influence of that mystic touch which comes from where we know not, have passed into the unknown land of insanity. As I have said before, I have formed many pleasant acquaintances here. I trust I never shall forget the faces of any of you whom I have met at this session. Some of them are indelibly burned into my memory, some of them will never pass away. One of the first acquaintances I formed when I came to this session, this winter, was that of my friend, Colonel Murphy from Lewiston. Something about the man attracted my attention, and I felt a respect for him, and that respect deepened and grew when I learned that while he loved to sing that grand old Irish song, "The Wearing of the Green," that while he loved the Shamrock and Thistle, yet high above all he loved the country of which he is an honored citizen; and that for two years under the shining folds of Old Glory he fought in defense of this great Union; that on Southern fields his ears heard the siren-like music of whistling bullets; that his flesh had felt the hot impact of hostile missiles. Such men as he I am proud to call my friends.

With the gentleman from Dresden (Mr. McFadden) I had some differences of opinion, but they were honest differences of opinion. I never have questioned the honesty and integrity of the gentleman from Dresden and I never shall. But those differences have all vanished, and with me they will be gone forever with the close of this session; because the gentleman from Dresden has a record brighter and grander and greater, than I can ever hope to achieve, for he too in his early manhood, under the most trying circumstances, found himself for a time obliged to fight against the flag which he loved, but when the first opportunity presented itself, he joined the Union ranks where he fought like a hero brave and true for the preservation of his country. And so good is his record and so gallant was his conduct as a soldier, that I believe, yea, I know that in the time to come—which I trust is still afar off—when in response to the last bugle call, bidding him to report for duty above, this old veteran with martial tread approaches the shining gates of the celestial city, he will hear from within the voice of Him who died that men might live, saying, "Welcome, gallant defender of your country's flag, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

I early recognized our friend from Clifton (Mr. Chick) as one of the silent forces of this House. I say silent, except when he was sent over to the Senate to convey a message and with his calliops voice, startled that august body like a blast from the trump of doom. (Laughter and applause.) But, nevertheless, we have recognized him as a power in this House, the same kind of a power that goes beating and pulsating along the electric wire, which moves and sets in motion great and massive machinery.

I have heard some things said here which have surprised me. I was surprised the other day when my good friend, the bright, able, keen lawyer from Skowhegan (Mr. Merrill) rose in his place, and with the simple, bland, child-like air of a Chinaman selling to a Hottentot a red flannel night shirt for Sunday-school wear, and with all the solemnity of a missionary urging a south-sea islander to wear sheepskin boots, a fur coat and embrace the true religion, said he did not understand certain classic terms which I had used in debate. (Laughter.) I thought if the gentleman was stating the truth, he must be more dense than a patent office report. (Laughter.) That he must be more dull than the back-side of a broad axe; that his powers of observation must be less than that possessed by the eyeless fishes of the Mammoth cave of Kentucky, or else he has not improved his opportunities. I have a lurking suspicion that his statement was one of those sweet, innocent little fictions acquired in childhood days, and which always cling to every man.

Now, gentlemen, my physical condition is such that I can not speak longer, if I would, I wish to thank you for your attention, and in closing I want to say that I am about to return to my home in the wilderness and I extend to you and to each of you a hearty invitation to visit me there; and if you do come I will take you by the hand, and I will show you my humble domicile with the latch string hanging out a foot and a half, and I will say to you as they say in Mexico, "Gentlemen, this house and all it contains is yours." (Applause.)

MR. MOREY OF LEWISTON.

Mr. Clerk: In presenting the resolution which I have just sent to the desk, it was a pleasure for me to think that in this session of eleven weeks the cry of party has not once been raised on the floor of this House. (Applause.)

As the gentleman from Augusta (Mr. Manley) so well said, in this session of the Legislature, party feeling has been abrogated, and we have all met here determined to do our best for the interests of the State as we view them; and now after this session which has been abbreviated through the energetic action and business-like methods of our honored speaker, we find ourselves ready now within a few short hours to cut loose forever from the ties which have bound us together as the members of this House.

Gentlemen, we have formed friendships free from partisan rancor that will be as lasting as the love which I hope may long

remain in the many friends I have met here on the floor of this House; and to the brave-hearted men of this Legislature, to the kind-hearted men of this Legislature, to the fair and impartial presiding officer who has been to all members courtesy itself, I wish for one to say to you all, that we part with the pleasantest and kindest feelings; and may this chapter of our life book that has now closed be one to which we can refer always with the pleasantest of thoughts and the kindest of feelings. (Applause.)

MR. DAWSON OF MONROE.

Mr. Clerk: We have heard from the lawyers of this House in respect to this resolution, and now it might be well for me to say a word in behalf of another class of people. I knew that when I came to this House for the first time in my life, and of course the chances are in small towns, the way we are elected, that I never shall again be a member, it was with a great many misgivings.

I knew, of course, that I with others of my calling would have to associate, we might say, with altogether a different class of people, than we were used to being associated with, and as I say it was with a great deal of misgiving; but I am happy to state that in my experience in this House of Representatives, I with others of my kind, have received nothing but the kindest consideration. The speaker of the House has given us no cause to find any fault. We have been taken by the hand, from the highest to the lowest; and now, in behalf of my people, who are farmers, and also of our Grand Army, I extend our cordial thanks and good will to the speaker of this House of Representatives. (Applause.)

MR. MAXCY OF GARDINER.

Mr. Clerk and Gentlemen: I am pleased to second the resolution introduced by the gentleman from Lewiston, and I desire to thank the speaker of this House for the able and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of this body.

And now the closing hours of this Legislature are drawing near, and soon we shall leave for our various homes. A few weeks ago we came here as strangers. We part as friends, carrying with us a friendship that shall never cease.

Pleased are we at the thought of returning to our own firesides, and of again resuming our various occupations, but mingled with the pleasure of that thought comes a feeling of sadness, when we realize that we shall probably never all meet again as a legislative body.

Quickly the years come and go, and each one brings its changes. With the

assembling of this House only 12 members from the last one answered here to the roll-call. In a comparatively short time another House will assemble, but a large number of these seats will then be filled by strangers.

Our work is about finished, soon our record will be made public, and I trust that our acts will stand the test of time.

In our discussions of the various matters presented here, honest differences of opinion have existed, but I believe that the thought of these differences will be left behind, and I feel sure that in the years to come, when we recall our past lives, some of its brightest memories will be of the happy hours passed in these halls.

As we now part I believe we shall take with us an increased veneration, and a greater love for this grand old State, the land of our birth, and I believe that in the years to come, each and every one of you will do all in your power to aid in its development, and to increase the prosperity, the welfare and the happiness of our people. (Applause.)

MR. MURPHY OF LEWISTON.

Mr. Clerk: It gives me great pleasure on this occasion to tender to the speaker of this House my sincere and cordial thanks for the many courtesies I have received at his hands; and I desire to say to the members of this House, one and all, to them I tender my thanks for the many cordial greetings and considerations I have received at their hands, and I trust that as long as I live the memory of this session shall be fresh with me, and without any extended remarks I feel that I can leave you all as friends. I met you as strangers, and I trust that so far as I am personally concerned I have done that in my experience which I have thought right. (Applause.)

MR. McFADDEN OF DRESDEN.

Mr. Clerk: Though I am not in a physical condition to say anything upon this occasion, I cannot feel satisfied to let the occasion pass without expressing my sentiments as well as I can. I assure you, one and all, that I appreciate as much as any man on the floor of this House the justice and the absolute fairness which the rulings of the speaker have always manifested. I appreciate also the universal courtesy which he has extended to every member of this House. While I have differed with many of you upon the duties which we owe to the people of the State in matters of policy, in matters of conducting the charities and the educational system of the State, I can say at this hour that I have no ill feelings whatever towards any member for any differ-

ences that have existed between us in opinion. (Applause.) I know that I have been sincere and I doubt not but each of you have. I hope I have never during the session indulged in any words that would indicate a different phase of mind in myself, for I have always endeavored to respect the opinions and sentiments of others.

I appreciate very fully the kind and cordial words which the gentleman from Presque Isle (Mr. Smith) has seen fit to extend towards me on this occasion, and I assure him that there is not lurking in my breast any wrangling feeling, which was inspired by ridicule which the gentleman has so much power in using. I know the temptation that always exists to use that powerful instrument, and I do not now cherish a thought in condemnation or a care for what has occurred. (Applause.) The questions upon which we have differed will be settled in one way or another in the future, and I am content as we must all be, to leave the settlement of these great questions to the mature and deliberate judgment of the people of the State.

Now, gentlemen, I wish that I was in a better condition to express to you my real sentiments, that my language was more adequate, but with the feeble and imperfect address I have made to you and with the hope that we may all live to see our fondest ambitions realized and our highest aspirations attained, with the hope that we may all live useful lives and that we may finally meet in a better and happier country where less differences occur, I heartily second the resolutions which have been offered. (Applause.)

MR. PEASLEE OF WISCASSET.

Mr. Clerk: I most heartily indorse the resolution as presented, and I cannot sit still without expressing to the speaker of this House my most heartfelt thanks for the many courtesies he has always showed to me. I have been necessary on many occasions for me to consult him in order to find my path here in the House, and he has always so willingly and so courteously shown me attention, that I have felt to look upon him as my guide.

I must say just a word to the members of the House who have so kindly shown me courtesies whenever it has become my duty, as I have felt, to speak upon the floor of this House. I have felt that you, gentlemen, all listened to me with attention, and I thank you for it. I most heartily thank you for the kindness you have shown me in helping me in the various things which I have undertaken; and I must say in regard to the gentleman from Dresden (Mr. McFarlane) that I am very glad indeed now to hear his remarks. While you know we have had some differences of opinion on the floor of the House, I have always known of his very kindly feelings toward me, while I have sustained the same toward him, yet now I know you will all understand this feeling if you have not before. While we have differed, I have yet the utmost respect for him, and we have always met pleasantly and kindly; and I must say

that the acquaintances which I have made here, the very pleasant acquaintances, will be for me to think of in the future very pleasant indeed. (Applause.)

MR. MERRILL OF SKOWHEGAN.

Mr. Clerk: It is with a great degree of satisfaction that I second the sentiments contained in the resolve in favor of our most admirable speaker.

When I came to this House I was a stranger to most of you, and most of you were strangers, entirely so, to me, but it has been a very pleasant season for me during this session, and the acquaintances which I have formed have been of the most pleasant character, and I hope, gentlemen, that I have not in any words, or in any acts, or in the expression of any opinion of my own, done it in a manner that was distasteful or unsatisfactory to any member of this House; and I thank you all gentlemen, for the very kind attention and the very kind expressions of friendship which I have received at your hands, and I hope as we are about to part from this association, that in the future we may meet many and many times, and meet as friends; and if there should ever be an opportunity that you may be able to come to my town, I most cordially invite you one and all to come and see me and call on me as a friend; and I most heartily second the resolution. (Applause.)

Mr. PARKHURST of Bangor: I most heartily subscribe to the sentiments contained in the resolution presented by the gentleman from Lewiston (Mr. Morey). I second that resolution and in doing so, I take occasion to express to the members of the House my kind appreciation of the kindly and courteous treatment which I, in common with the other members have received from our speaker. I do not believe that the chair of this House has ever been graced by a gentleman more anxious to perform the arduous duties which fall upon the speaker of the House of Representatives, by a man who has tried more faithfully in serving us and aiding us in the performance of our duty, and also serve the State. I feel, gentlemen, a keen sense of regret at the prospect of parting as we shall this evening. In common with the rest of you I knew comparatively few of my associates in the present House. I believe now that there is not within the sound of my voice a single man into whose eyes I cannot look, and whose hand I cannot take, and to whom I cannot address the sentiments of friendship. I hope in the years to come that it may be my good fortune to see all of you, to welcome you at my home and to continue there the associations that have been so pleasant to me here. (Applause.)

MR. CHICK OF CLIFTON.

Mr. Clerk: It is peculiarly gratifying to me to have listened to the good words which have been spoken in reference to our honored speaker, a member from our county, and I want to say a word in behalf of the more humble members of the House—we fellows that belong away up

in the backwoods. It has been very gratifying to me and to the other country members from our county, as has been often expressed to me this winter, the universal courtesy which they have received at his hands, and I heartily concur in seconding the resolution which has been offered; and here allow me to say personally that I want to express my sincere thanks to every member of this House, which I believe has been a House of unusual courtesy, one to the other. For many days I have had some misgiving and regret as the close of this session approached, and I can find no way to satisfy my mind in leaving you, other than to come into possession of a copy of the group picture of this Legislature which hangs in the lobby today, and it will be a gratification to me in the days to come in my humble home when I look upon your faces, as I may pick out member after member who have been kind and courteous to me, all the way from Portland to Calais, and as has been forcibly expressed once before in this House, from Kittery to Caribou, and that will take in my friend, the judge from Presque Isle, it will be peculiarly gratifying and comforting to me to look upon your faces.

I thank you most kindly, Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the House, for the courtesy shown me, the backwoods member from Penobscot county. (Applause.)

MR. MERRILL OF NEW GLOUCES- TER.

Mr. Clerk: It affords me great pleasure to express my gratitude to this body that has always extended the greatest courtesy to me. I deem it a pleasure to have the friendship of every man in this House. I wish especially to thank our speaker for the unvarying kindness he has shown me and also for his impartiality to the members of the minority body in this Legislature in making up the committees at the beginning of this session. He has ruled impartially and been just to all and on behalf of the Democrats of this House I wish to heartily second the resolutions presented.

The resolution was given a unanimous passage by a rising vote.

RESPONSE OF SPEAKER STETSON.

Gentlemen of the House; it is with feelings of profound gratitude that I desire to express to you all my sincere appreciation of the many pleasant things which you have said of your presiding officer, both in the resolutions which have been offered and in the remarks which have been made.

Some three short months ago we assembled here as members of the 69th Legislature, and you elected me as your presiding officer. I have endeavored to be fair and just to every member, and have endeavored to the best of my ability to perform the duties of this office. I sincerely appreciate the remarks that have been made by the members on the floor of this House in seconding this resolution, and in the many years that I hope to live I shall treasure up as fond memories the days when I formed the

friendship, which I know and feel will be lasting, of many men over our entire State.

Coming as we have from all sections of our State, representing both political parties, I can truly say that I believe your actions have been just, and fair and for the best interests of our State, irrespective of locality or party affiliations.

I desire to express my appreciation to those members of the committee on engrossed bills and bills in the third reading, who have so faithfully and conscientiously performed the work to which they were assigned, and I can truly say that the ease and despatch with which the business of this section has been accomplished has been due in a great measure to the conscientious work of all the gentlemen on these two committees; and as I have consulted with men in the engrossing department, I think I am authorized to say that in no former Legislature have men assumed the onerous duties of these committees so willingly and so faithfully as that of the 69th Legislature.

Perhaps I am as well qualified and can realize more than any member on the floor of this House the arduous and faithful duties which have been performed by our efficient clerk, and I assure you, gentlemen, it has been a pleasure to your presiding officer to be associated with a gentleman of so much ability and attainment; and I believe that I voice the sentiments of all the members when I say that I believe it is the wish of us all that some day his wish may be gratified to occupy a place in a department of this State. (Applause.)

The 69th Legislature will go down as one composed of representative men, men who knew how to act and to vote for what they thought was for the best interest of our State, and I believe the history of this Legislature will be such as will carry out the remarks which I have made, for it is well known that they are men of ability; and I believe the fair and honorable and frank discussion of all measures that have come before this House, sitting as I have here in the chair, and the feeling that has come up from the floor of this House that every member shall and will have fair treatment, rules or no rules, (applause) made me feel that each man was willing and more than willing that every one should have the fullest opportunity to say all that he wanted on any subject that was pending for legislative action.

Thanking you, gentlemen, for this opportunity of expressing to you my heartfelt approval for this most cordial resolution, I now close with once again thanking you at this which may be my last opportunity in this Legislature. (Applause.)

Mr. PARKHURST of Bangor: At the commencement of our legislative work it was my fortune to present to our caucus the name of a gentleman who, during the days of this session, has aided us in the conduct of our business, who has assisted our imperfect knowledge of the rules governing the progress of this House. I am doubly gratified at the present time to have the opportunity of pre-

senting to this House a resolution thanking him for his work during the session.

Resolved, that the thanks of the members of this House be tendered to W. S. Cotton for the conspicuous ability that he has displayed in the discharge of his duties as clerk of this House, and for the uniform patience and courtesy with which he has treated the members.

I move the unanimous adoption of the resolution. (Applause.)

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. PHILBROOK of Waterville: It is an easy matter sometimes for us to speak of those who are within the hearing of our voice, but do you ever think that there are those who may be far away and who are as much interested in our proceedings as we are ourselves? Away up on the northern border of our State today is sitting an old man, whose time must soon come to take his place in that house which is not made with hands. Those who have had the pleasure of serving in former Legislatures know well the kind heart and genial manner and the good graces of William Dickey. (Applause.) Before we close this session I would have it go out that we have not forgotten him. I have no doubt that there is no member of this House who has followed the proceedings of this body with more earnestness, with more care and with more intelligence than has the venerable sage of Fort Kent; and I take the privilege of introducing this order.

Ordered, that the clerk of the House be directed to send the following communication to Hon. William Dickey of Fort Kent:

Dear Sir: In the closing hours of the 69th Legislature the House of Representatives remembers with loving respect the gentleman who has so many times represented Fort Kent in this body. We have missed his kindly presence and valuable suggestions during this term, and beg him to accept our sincere wishes that his health and strength may be spared to him for many years, and that every earthly joy may attend him as he approaches the sunset hour of life. (Applause.)

The order received a unanimous passage.

On motion by Mr. Manley the House took a recess till 8 o'clock this evening.

EVENING SESSION.

Mr. Manley from the committee on financial affairs reported ought to pass on resolve to provide in part for the expenditures of government for the year 1899.

On motion by Mr. Manley the rules were suspended the resolve was read twice and was passed to be engrossed.

Same gentleman from same committee reported same on resolve to provide in part for the expenditures of government for the year 1900.

On motion by Mr. Manley, the rules were suspended, the resolve was read twice and was passed to be engrossed.

An act relating to political caucuses in towns, came from the Senate indefinitely postponed.

The House reconsidered its action whereby this ... was passed to be engrossed.

On motion by Mr. King, the House receded and concurred with the Senate in its indefinite postponement.

PASSED TO BE ENACTED.

An act relative to the desecration or mutilation or improper use of the flag of the United States or of this State.

FINALLY PASSED.

Resolve making an appropriation to cover deficiency for cattle killed on account of tuberculosis by cattle commissioners.

Resolve in favor of the York County Agricultural Society.

Resolve in favor of the committee on the Bath Military and Naval Orphan Asylum.

Resolve in favor of the typewriters and stenographers of the presiding officers and the secretary and clerk of the Senate and House.

Resolve in favor of building for the Maine Industrial School for Girls.

The House took a recess until 10.45.

AFTER RECESS.

A life-sized portrait of the Speaker was brought into the house.

Mr. MOREY of Lewiston: Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House: I was but recently requested to make a few remarks on this occasion, which, while it is one of pleasure, is also one of sadness to us. I have been requested, Mr. Speaker, in behalf of your many friends in this Legislature, in behalf of those who know what a friend is, who prize a friend, to present you with a little gift that shall be to you, we trust, a pleasant memory as the years come and go. A flower plucked by the roadside is charming from its beauty and from its fragrance. This gift to you, Mr. Speaker, coming as it does, spontaneously from the hearts of your fellow members, the gentlemen over whom you have presided for so many weeks with great fidelity, and the true spirit of justice that has marked your rulings, comes, I say, to you as a token, as a fragrant memory that these members desire it to give to you, as representing merely the friendship that they have for you, and the memories that they wish you to retain of them. We present it to you, Mr. Speaker, and bear in mind that it is a greater pleasure for us to give to you something that will cherish the memory of the members of this House when life shall grow old and age shall come and go with the most of us, that to you in all the time of life, now in the meridian, as you go down the sunset slope, it shall be to you a living memory of your friends of the 60th Legislature. (Applause). And as we make our farewells now, as we give to the Speaker this token of our memory, we wish you, Mr. Speaker, to accept it and keep it with you; because of all the pleasures of life there is nothing so priceless as the jewel of friendship; and this, symbolized by that little token, we give and offer to you. (Applause).

The SPEAKER: Mr. Morey and Gentlemen of the House: I accept with pleasure this present which you have so kindly

given me, not perhaps for its intrinsic worth, but as a memento of the kindly spirit with which it is given. I shall take the picture to my home; I shall hang it on the wall; and as I look at the face it will reflect to me the faces of you all; and in the reflection of those faces will come back to me the memories of the pleasant and happy days which we passed together in this House. (Applause). And may I hope that this friendship which has so pleasantly started between us will continue, and that we shall treasure fond memories of the happy three months we have spent together here at Augusta working for the interests of the State. And may this fond friendship endure between us all as long as life shall last. I thank you. (Applause).

Mr. CHICK of Clifton, proposed three cheers for the Speaker, which were given.

PASSED TO BE ENACTED.

An act to provide in part for the expenditures of government for the year 1899.

An act to provide in part for the expenditures of government for the year 1900.

An act to regulate the admission to practice of attorneys, solicitors and counsellors and to provide for a board of examiners and to repeal conflicting acts.

FINALLY PASSED.

Resolve on the pay roll of the Senate.
Resolve on the pay roll of the House.

Resolve in favor of the messenger to the committee on railroads, telegraphs and expresses, the messenger to the committee on inland fisheries and game, the messenger to the committee on sea and shore fisheries, the messenger to the committee on education and the temporary assistant to the librarian.

Mr. Smith of Presque Isle, presented the following:

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this House be given to its assistant clerk and the other officers of the House for the able, faithful and efficient manner in which they have discharged their duties.

The order received a passage.

A message was received from the Senate, through Senator Stearns of Aroostook, that the Senate had transacted all business before it and was ready to adjourn without day.

On motion by Mr. Smith of Presque Isle, that gentleman was appointed to convey message to the Senate informing that body that the House had transacted all business before it and was ready to adjourn with day.

Mr. Smith subsequently reported that he had discharged the duty assigned him.

The following Senate order was received:

Ordered, that a committee of three on the part of the Senate with such as the House may join be appointed to wait on the Governor and inform him that both branches of the Legislature have acted on all matters before them and are ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make.

The order received a passage in concurrence.

The Speaker appointed on the part of the House Messrs. Manley of Augusta,

Guernsey of Dover, West of Biddeford, Garcelon of Lewiston, Wood of Camden, Fuller of Auburn, and Fitz of Durham.

Mr. Manley for the committee subsequently reported that they had discharged the duty assigned them and that the Governor was pleased to say that he would forthwith send a list of the acts and resolves which he has signed, and that he had no further communication to make.

Forthwith, a communication was received from the Governor transmitting a list of the acts and resolves passed by this Legislature, and approved by the Governor, numbering 337 acts and 117 resolves, also one act and 13 resolves which had become effective without his signature; and that he had no further communication to make.

Mr. Virgin of Portland, presented the following order:

Ordered, that in token of its appreciation of the uniform courtesy and strict impartiality of the Speaker, the House now present to the Speaker the gavel used by him during the session.

The order received a passage.

On motion by Mr. Manley of Augusta, the Speaker, at 11.15 o'clock P. M., declared the House adjourned without day.