

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Seventy-First Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1903.

HOUSE.

Wednesday, Jan. 28.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Webber of Hallowell.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

The following Senate bill was read and assigned: An Act to authorize the Auburn savings bank of Auburn to construct and maintain safety deposit boxes.

The following petitions, bills, etc., were presented and referred:

Judiciary.

By Mr. Barker of Bangor: Petition for An Act to amend Section 8 of Chapter 75 of the Revised Statutes regulating the descent of personal property of intestates.

By Mr. Knowlton of New Portland: Petition by inhabitants of Anson for right to purchase Norridgewock Falls toll bridge.

By Mr. Littlefield of Rockland: Bill, An Act to amend Section 12 and following sections of Chapter 43 of the Revised Statutes relating to meridian lines and standard of length.

Also: Bill, An Act for the recording of plans.

Also: Bill, An Act relating to pleadings.

By Mr. Gagnon of Van Buren: Bill, An Act to amend Chapter 137 of the Public Laws of 1887, as amended by Chapter 330 of the Public Laws of 1897 relating to the place where the judgment debtor shall be cited to disclose.

Legal Affairs.

By Mr. Smith of Madison: Petition of C. O. Small and others for An Act to authorize the proprietors of the Norridgewock Falls bridge to sell the Norridgewock Falls bridge.

Also: Petition of C. O. Small and others for An Act to authorize the town of Madison to purchase Norridgewock Falls bridge.

By Mr. Maybury of Saco: Petition of Edwin B. Pike and others for incorporation of Pike family association.

By Mr. Dudley of Augusta: Remonstrance of Mrs. Lendall Titcomb and 41 others, taxpayers of Augusta,

against conferring suffrage upon women.

By Mr. Weatherbee of Lincoln: Bill, An Act to amend Chapter 77 of the Public Laws of 1899 relating to mortgagee's lien for costs of foreclosure under Section five of Chapter 90 of the Revised Statutes.

Federal Relations.

By Mr. Allen of Sanford: Bill, An Act to provide for the representation of the State of Maine at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis, Missouri, and making an appropriation therefor.

On motion of Mr. Allen of Sanford, this bill was tabled for printing pending its reference to the committee.

By Mr. Gagnon of Van Buren: Resolve relating to the condition of the people of Sweden.

Education.

By Mr. Irving of Caribou: Petition of W. C. Spaulding and 92 others of Caribou for a normal school at Presque Isle; of G. W. Billington and 81 others of Caribou for same.

By Mr. Dilling of Easton: Petition of H. W. Safford and 14 others of Mars Hill for same.

By Mr. Smith of Hartland: Bill, An Act to amend Section one of Chapter 185 of the Public Laws of 1901 relating to truants.

Railroads, Telegraphs and Expresses.

By Mr. Allen of Sanford: Bill, An Act to consolidate Atlantic Shore Line Railway, Sanford & Cape Porpoise Railway Company, Mousam River Railroad and Sanford Power Company.

By Mr. Kimball of Rockland: Bill, An Act to amend Chapter 271 of the Private and Special Laws of 1901 relating to the Lincoln Electric Railway Company.

Banks and Banking.

By Mr. Barker of Bangor: Petition of A. W. Paine to reduce the present rate of taxation on savings banks deposits; also to prohibit taxation on all deposits over \$500 as petitioned for.

By Mr. Farnsworth of Tremont: Bill, An Act to incorporate the South West Harbor Banking and Trust Company.

By Mr. Allen of Sanford: Bill, An Act to amend the charter of the Sanford Trust Company.

By Mr. Gagnon of Van Buren: Bill, An Act to continue in force Chapter 276 of the Private and Special Laws of 1895 entitled An Act to incorporate the Van Buren Trust and Banking Company, as amended by Chapter 131 of the Private and Special Laws of 1899, continued in force by Chapter 337 of the Private and Special Laws of 1901.

Interior Waters.

By Mr. Weatherbee of Lincoln: Bill, An Act to extend the charter of the Mattanawcook Manufacturing Company.

By Mr. Buxton of Abbot: Bill, An Act entitled An Act to create the Spectacle Pond Reservoir Dam Company.

State Lands and State Roads.

By Mr. Thornton of Ashland: Petition of W. B. Hallet and 76 others asking for aid to repair the Allagash road.

Inland Fisheries and Game.

By Mr. Knowlton of Camden: Petition of O. P. Fuller and 473 others of Knox county for close time on deer.

By Mr. Page of Skowhegan: Petition of Abram Newton and 47 others for the opening of Parlin stream and Bean brook for fishing in open time.

By Mr. Smith of Hartland: Petition of W. B. Brown and 25 others in favor of non-residents' tax on hunters now pending.

Shore Fisheries.

By Mr. McFaul of Machias: Petition of F. M. Thompson and others of Roque Bluff to amend Section 37 of Chapter 284 of the Public Laws of 1901 relating to taking clams on shore of others.

By Mr. Todd of Georgetown: Bill, An Act for the better protection of shellfish in the town of Georgetown.

Towns.

By Mr. Page of Skowhegan: Petition of Daniel Bryant and 33 others of Brighton Plantation for annexation of that part of the plantation in which they reside to the plantation of Mayfield.

Public Charities and State Beneficiaries.

By Mr. Drew of Portland: Petition of George E. Fellows and 121 others praying for the establishment of a home and school for the feeble minded.

Also: Resolve in favor of Maine Home for Friendless Boys.

Temperance.

By Mr. McKusick of Parkman: Remonstrance of W. C. Clark and 33 others of Parkman against re-submission.

By Mr. Eaton of Calais: Remonstrance of Justin Bridgman and 57 others against same.

By Mr. Williams of Williamsburg: Remonstrance of Mrs. Moses Howard of Brownville and 80 others against same.

Taxation.

By Mr. Todd of Georgetown: Remonstrance of S. B. Hathorn and 13 others of Richmond against reduction of tax on savings banks.

Orders.

On motion of Mr. Williams of Williamsburg, Ordered, The Senate concurring, that the committee on labor inquire into the expediency of enacting a law for the protection of workmen, covering the dangerous condition of mines and quarries, dangerous machinery and dangerous trades, and report by bill or otherwise.

Reports of Committees.

Mr. Mills from the Committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries, on Bill, An Act to amend Chapter 285 of the Public Laws of 1897 relating to sea and shore fisheries, reported ought not to pass.

Mr. Littlefield from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported in a new draft bill, An Act in relation to the powers of the Union River Light, Gas and Power Company, and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Hanson from the Committee on Legal Affairs, on Bill, An Act to amend Section 15 of Chapter 15 of the Revised Statutes relating to burying grounds, reported ought to pass.

Mr. Pettengill from the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, on Bill, An Act providing in part

for the expenditures of the government for the year 1903, reported ought to pass.

Mr. Snow from the Committee on Agriculture, on Resolve in favor of dairying interests of the State of Maine, reported ought to pass.

The reports were accepted and the bills and resolve ordered printed under joint rules.

Passed to be Engrossed.

An Act to amend Section 28 of Chapter 73 of the Revised Statutes relating to conveyances.

An Act to authorize the Old Orchard Electric Light Company to issue bonds and for other purposes.

An Act relating to Winthrop Cold Spring Water Company.

Orders of the Day.

On motion of Mr. Dudley of Augusta, Bill, An Act establishing the salary of the county attorney of Kennebec county, was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman the House non-concurred in the action of the Senate, and referred the bill to the Committee on Salaries.

On motion of Mr. Weeks of Fairfield, Bill, An Act to amend Chapter 378 of the Public Laws of 1885 relating to electric posts and wires, was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman it was referred to the Committee on Railroads, Telegraphs and Expresses.

Memorial Exercises to the Memory of the Late Thomas B. Reed.

A message was received from the Senate through its secretary proposing a joint assembly of the two branches of the Legislature at 10.15 o'clock, this day, for the purpose of holding memorial exercises to the memory of the late Thomas B. Reed.

On motion of Mr. Allan of Portland, the clerk conveyed a message to the Senate signifying the concurrence of the House in the proposition for a joint assembly.

Thereupon the Senate came in and an assembly was formed.

In Assembly.

The President of Senate: This assembly has been formed to pay our tribute of respect to the memory of the

late Hon. Thomas B. Reed, and the Chair awaits the pleasure of assembly.

On motion of Mr. Burns of Cumberland, Messrs. Burns of Cumberland, Staples of Knox, Drew of Portland, Shaw of Bath, Blake of Sidney, Buzzell of Old Town and Knowlton of Camden, were appointed a committee to wait upon the Governor and Council, and inform them that the two branches of the Legislature were convened in joint assembly in the Hall of the House of Representatives for the purpose of holding memorial exercises to the memory of the late Thomas B. Reed, and extend an invitation to them to attend.

Subsequently the committee through Mr. Burns reported that they had discharged the duty assigned it, and that his Excellency, the Governor, was pleased to say that he would attend forthwith accompanied by his council. Thereupon the Governor accompanied by his Council and the heads of departments came in.

His Excellency, the Governor, upon taking the Chair to preside, said:

Gentlemen of the Assembly: We unite today in commemorating the life and public services of one of Maine's most noble and illustrious sons, Thomas Brackett Reed. In every sense of the word Mr. Reed was a statesman; and his brilliant career excited the respect and admiration of every true American. It is an honor and privilege to join in this tribute to his memory.

The Chair will now recognize the Senator from Cumberland, Mr. Randall, as the first speaker.

Mr. RANDALL of Cumberland: Your Excellency, in behalf of the committee on memorial exercises to the late Thomas B. Reed, I have the honor to submit the following resolutions, and I move their adoption:

The Seventy-first Legislature of Maine, by joint resolution, unananimously adopted, having set aside this day and fixed this place as the occasion for memorial exercises for our late distinguished citizen, Thomas B. Reed, therefore

Resolved, That we as representatives of the people of the great State

which was the birthplace of Thomas E. Reed, unitedly and publically give voice to the universal sorrow which the news of his untimely death spread to every portion of our domain.

Resolved, That the entire public and private career of Mr. Reed is a source of the greatest satisfaction and pride to all our citizens, and that his high character, lofty aspirations, commanding ability and valuable public services, rendered our State and nation, will ever be held in affectionate and grateful remembrance by all the people of his native State.

Resolved, That these resolutions be extended upon the records of the convention and that as evidence of the sincere sympathy and condolence of all the people of Maine, an engrossed copy thereof be sent to his family.

Mr. RANDALL of Cumberland, said:

Your Excellency and Gentlemen of the Assembly: In the year 1861 I was a student at the old High School for boys in Portland. In that year there came to us an assistant teacher, a young man just graduated from Bowdoin college—a rather tall, smooth-faced, jolly fellow—whom we boys soon learned to love and respect, a young man who, all unforseen by us, was destined in after years to become one of the master minds of the Republic, and one of the greatest statesmen this country has produced—teacher, lawyer, State senator, attorney general of Maine, city solicitor of Portland, and for twenty-two years representing with distinguished ability the first district of Maine in the Congress of the United States—standing there during all the time a peer among the giants of that body. Three times elected speaker of the National House, a great, honest, brainy, manly man, Thomas Brackett Reed.

And we are assembled here to-day to pay a last fond tribute to his memory, who but a few short weeks ago, his life work but half accomplished, was taken from among us and lay down, as we do hope to pleasant dreams; and it is especially fitting that the Legislature of the State which gave him birth and which he did so honor in later years, should pause in the midst of his duties and lay a wreath of love, honor and approbation upon his grave. Every page

of the history of Maine is bright with deeds of her distinguished sons and such names as Fessenden, Hamlin and Blaine, Chamberlain and Berry, Drummond, Webb, Dingley and Reed, will ever shine as bright, particular stars among a host of eminent men.

Mr. Reed needs no eulogy from me. Long after all of us who participate in these exercises to day shall have passed to the great unknown and be forgotten, his name and services will be remembered and he will be spoken of as the Great Speaker, the ablest statesman of his time.

I knew him for many years. He was my tutor in my boyhood days, and he honored me with his friendship in later years; and therefore it is with deep feelings of love and respect that I to-day offer this slight tribute to his memory.

Mr. SMITH of Presque Isle said:

Your Excellency and Gentlemen of the Assembly: There is an old Arabian proverb which says that death is a camel that kneels at every man's door. And we have met today in joint assembly for the purpose of paying our tribute of respect and esteem to the memory of one of the distinguished sons of Maine, before whose door the camel has recently knelt.

Within the personal recollection of many of us, several of the able and distinguished men of Maine, men who have left a deep and lasting impress upon the history of our State and Nation, have been borne away by this same camel—Fessenden, Hamlin, Blaine, Dingley, Boutelle, Milliken—names as familiar as household words.

Thomas E. Reed stood in the front ranks of men such as these, and in power, ability, integrity and strength of character, he was their peer and their equal. Like them, he was not only endowed with great intellectual power, but like them also he was honest and upright in all his dealings with his fellow men. The smell of fire was never upon his garments. He never prostituted his great power and ability. Neither love for friend, nor fear of foe ever caused him to swerve the breadth of a single hair from what he believed to be right. His superb honesty and high conception of right, is strikingly evidenced by the fact that

he was poor when he entered Congress, he remained poor while in Congress, and he was poor when he left Congress. Yet his high position as the great speaker of the National House of Representatives, together with the mighty influence and power which his exalted position gave him, must have opened before him many questionable avenues of wealth, but with his strong sense of honor, he scorned to enter the golden doors so invitingly held open—a temptation to which a weaker man than he might have yielded. And the fact that he did not use his position and power for his own private gain, is one of the brightest gems in the crown of his great fame.

When occasion required, he could strike mighty blows, but they were always struck on the side of what he believed to be right. And when he struck, he made himself felt. To be sure his blows were not like those of Saladin who with a single deft stroke of his cimiter severed in twain the gossamer handkerchief floating in mid air, but rather they were like the blows of Richard, the lion-hearted, who with one stroke of his mighty sword cleft the ingot of iron.

The State of Maine, without regard to party or creed, rejoices in his great fame which is a part of her glory. His name is written in letters of burnished gold, high in the list of her many illustrious sons, and many long generations will pass away before Speaker Reed is forgotten by his State and country.

Mr. WING of Androscoggin said:

Your Excellency and Gentlemen of the Assembly: Nearly nineteen hundred years ago the Divine Man, our Savior, pronounced an eulogium upon an absent friend in less than three lines, the burning words of which have outlived and outshone all contemporaneous panegyrics. "Among them that are born of women, there hath not arisen a greater than John the Baptist." These words, few and simple though they be, will last while time endures. When all the applause created by the fulsome praises spoken of the living and the dead during all the centuries which have intervened are forgotten, and the voices

which gave utterance thereto and the echoes thereof are still and lost, this simple tribute will stand out boldly and grandly as the treasured expression of Him who spoke as never man spake.

The State of Maine, though less than a century old, has upon her roll the names of most distinguished and honorable sons, whose lives, characters and deeds are interwoven with the history of our country, and the management of its most important concerns; statesmen of worldwide celebrity, with wise discrimination and broad-minded integrity, who have paid obedience to no command but the will of heaven; clergymen whose pious ministrations in the quiet and peaceful circles of life have elevated the standard of public and private morals, and have been a solace and benediction; heroes whose deeds of valor, performed in the line of duty for the cause of their country, are preserved in song and story, and whose names will ever be held in tenderest remembrance by a proud and grateful people; and poets, too, with felicity of thought and grace and charm of expression, whose songs and verse are sung with pleasure and delight the world around—but no name among them all is more highly honored, and no memory more deeply treasured than that of my friend and your friend, our own citizen, the great commoner, Thomas B. Reed.

He was to the manner born; he was our great representative citizen, born, bred and educated in Maine, and during all that illustrious career which gave him a worldwide name and fame, he hailed from Maine, our own State, and his death was and is irreparable, not only to the world and the great city, that great metropolis which he had made his business home, but to Maine, who claimed him as her own, her son.

When the history of our own day and time is finally written, the name of Reed will occupy a full page, and when thereafter that page is read, a sigh of deep regret will ever express lament that the world was too early deprived of the originality, the mental vigor and prowess, and the positive

character of this great man, while he was yet in the full enjoyment of complete strength of mind and intellectual power.

Let us not permit his name and fame to be forgotten. Let us cherish his noble and manly virtues, and endeavor to kindle the fires of ambition within the hearts and minds of our youth to emulate his example, and may we set aside a place in our public archives where the memory of this great citizen shall be kept forever green.

His was a busy life—a constant struggle, but a succession of most brilliant victories. When the end came and the light went out, all classes and conditions of men, representing all shades of opinion, at once paused to reverently and with uncovered head, give united expression of sincere sorrow at his death, to pay solemn tribute to his greatness, and sign the universal verdict of mankind throughout the world, that Thomas Brackett Reed was a Christian gentleman, a great and incorruptible statesman, an eminent, resourceful and accomplished lawyer, and an honest man.

Mr. DAVIS of Waterville, said:

Your Excellency and Gentlemen of the Assembly: This august assemblage, this hour, this place echoing yet with the statesmanship of that distinguished citizen whose memory we cherish, admonishes us that the emotions of our hearts and not our spoken words, are the sincerest endorsement of the resolutions now before this Convention.

In the words of Daniel Webster, "If there be anything in associations fit to affect the mind of man, we need not strive to repress the emotions which agitate us here."

Your Excellency, a gigantic pine has fallen—reared in the grand old State of Maine, where excellence in statesmanship has ever been an object lesson to our youth; where in the light of the constitution is taught the fundamental doctrine that the nation rests in the cottage; that morality is the enduring basis of true greatness, Thomas Brackett Reed was a natural product; and his inheritance of courage, of manliness, of independence of adher-

ence to principle, was but a logical sequence.

These environs, these mental and moral furnishings, made his pathway from the obscure advocate in his native town in 1865, to membership in the House in 1868, to the Senate in 1870, to Attorney General in 1871 and 1872, to the National House in 1877 and to the Speakership in 1889 and again in 1897, a royal highway without crook or turn.

Speaker Reed was too broad an American to adhere unfalteringly to party usage or yield to party pressure against his personal convictions. He never subscribed to the toast: "Our Country Always Right; But Right or Wrong, Our Country."

On the 27th of February 1882, in that memorable Garfield memorial address in Congress, James G. Blaine made the assertion, that the three distinguished parliamentary leaders hitherto developed in this country were, Clay, Douglass and Stevens. To this distinguished list must now be added the illustrious name of Reed; for while Clay at 64 took the control of the Whig Party from the President who had received their Suffrages—with Webster and Choate opposed and while Douglass forced Congress into a repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and while Stevens advanced his parliamentary leadership until Congress tied the hands of the President, Mr. Reed against entrenched precedent and usage, compelled a reluctant House to legislate; and thus inaugurated a new departure from established parliamentary proceedings in the American Congress.

Words faintly express our admiration for such a son of the Pine Tree State, or our loss in his departure from us.

Did I say a gigantic pine had fallen? Let us change the simile. A new fixed star shines in the Maine constellation: a star shines with lustre undimmed upon the pathway of duty and devotion to state and country which stretches before us.

We have a truer conception of loyalty to high ideals because of this illustrious citizen. His niche in the Hall of Fame and his place on the illumined page of history are both se-

cure. May the day never come when these stalwart types of true American greatness under a Democracy cease to be a Maine product.

Your Excellency, I heartily endorse the resolutions now before this joint convention.

Mr. SMITH of Hartland, said:

Your Excellency and Gentlemen of the Assembly: It is not my purpose to attempt any extended eulogy on the illustrious life work of this illustrious statesman. It is not for me to seek to penetrate the veil, and speak of him in that sphere as husband and father, as neighbor or townsman. More eloquent lips than mine can tell that which was his noblest calling and highest attainment. His love and affection for family and home. Others are here to tell the story of his kindness and loyalty for friend and kinsman. It is sufficient for me to contribute but a word, to bring a single flower of tender memory to add my little wreath of affectionate admiration in behalf of his sacred memory. Who of us, that have not observed while scanning the blue heaven above, with her millions of sparkling worlds, scattered sparingly here and there, a majestic star, pouring forth her richer and more radiant rays, surpassing all others. How true we find this of mankind. The laws of creation, having heir to us now and then a great leader, towering far above his fellow beings, conspicuous among the distinguished sons reared from the rugged hills of the old Pine Tree State, whose name is not only familiar to the children of our every village, hamlet and town, but of our South beneath her sunny skies, in distant California amid her fields of golden rocks, and yea, in far away New Zealand the name of Thomas Brackett Reed is written there.

A soldier has fallen. A hero is dead. Not while on the battlefield, amid the rush of contending parties; not while in gallant leadership, leading his party onward and onward in her every charge, with victory ever in hand, for he had laid down the gavel, and ceased to participate in the great political arena of his life. But we can never forget how we have known of

him in this very hall, a leader of leaders, champion of champions. We have known of him at Washington, confronted with the fiery blasts of jealousy and a divided house. We have known of him as emancipating his people from the shackles of a filibustering contingent in the National House of Representatives. We have known of him when our very hearts were bating that he might be selected as our standard bearer and chief magistrate over the grandest Nation ever visited by mankind. But he had met his final conqueror, and sank beneath his icy breath. His works are ended. No man can tell the results of his labors. But from memories shrine his name can never be effaced. The dreams of childhood and visions of old age vanish. Flowers bloom, blush and fade away. Stars fall from heaven and leave no trace behind them. But a life like Thomas Brackett Reed can never run its course and be forgotten, and when the fettered fangs of eternity were bearing his soul away, his life was just beginning.

Mr. STETSON of Penobscot said:

Your Excellency: and Gentlemen of the Assembly: I have been requested to add a few words to the noble thoughts which have been spoken, today, expressing as they have, the sorrow we feel for the death of our illustrious statesman, Thomas B. Reed

We have listened to the history of his life, including as it has, his great services to our State and nation, and while the narrative was being told, we were conscious of a proud feeling for the man who had made the name of our old State illustrious in the legislative hall of our country, and as we listened, we pondered on the source and strength of his character, which indeed made him stand out as a man among men.

It is worthy that our first thoughts should be given to grief, as we realize the loss our State and nation have sustained.

A strong man has departed and those who have preceded me have given their estimate of his character, of his life and of his genius.

They have expressed their sense of the great loss to our country and to his

friends. A loss incapable of repair, but a loss that fills us with patriotic pride and fondness, and one which we will cherish and consign to history, in the memory of a strong and great man.

It was in this hall that he first promised to maintain the laws of our State, and it was here, while a representative for two terms, that his voice was heard in defense of our State and her rights.

It is well for us all, in the busy struggles and ambitions of life, when death has taken away a leader among men, to pause and to take one's thoughts away from worldly affairs, and bid the departed a farewell, before the "ranks close up and the column presses on."

In this room, where we may almost fancy there may still linger, some echo of his familiar voice, it is most appropriate that we pay our fond, just tribute to his virtues and his memory.

We all realize his great mental attainments, and the great strength and breadth of his mind, for it is well known that he was a lover of learning and he had that union of acuteness, judgment, and human feeling that makes a successful lawyer, and at the time of his death, he stood as one of the foremost jurists of our country.

As we review his life, the strong points in his character which are firmly impressed on my mind, are his great administrative ability, his simplicity of personal qualities and his honesty and steadfastness of purpose.

These characteristics to me, stamped him as one of the strongest of men and what the greatest of Greek historians said of Pericles, might well be said of our lamented friend: "He did not so much follow as lead the people, because he framed not his words to please them, like one who is gaining power by unworthy means, but was able and dared, on the strength of his high character, even to brave their anger by contradicting their will."

In closing, I will add, that his name stands the highest in the list of distinguished men who have occupied the great office of Speaker of the National House, and that, today, we mourn the loss of a distinguished official and an honest man.

Mr. PERKINS of Wilton, said:

Your Excellency and Gentlemen of

the Assembly: I hope I shall not be considered obtrusive, if on this occasion for a brief moment, I mingle my humble voice with those whose ability I do not pretend to equal, who have sought to do justice to the worth and memory of the deceased.

There is a lesson taught no less in the death than in the life of every man—eminently so in the case of one who has filled a large space and occupied a distinguished position in the thoughts and regard of his fellow-men. Thomas Brackett Reed, born in Portland, in 1839, received the advantages of an early school training, and was graduated from Bowdoin College in 1860. In succession he was twice a member of the House of Representatives, a State senator, and attorney general. In 1876 he was elected a member of the National House of Representatives, and for twenty-two years, either as Speaker of the House or leader of the Republican forces, he was the central figure of that body. In 1899 he laid aside the cares, anxieties and honors of a political life and returned to the practice of law in the city of New York. By his death our country has lost one of its most eminent citizens and statesmen. His distinguished services as representative and Speaker, and attorney general in his native State and as representative and Speaker of the National House of Representatives, are inseparably connected with the history of his country. He has in all these positions, exhibited a wisdom and patriotism which have made a deep and lasting impression upon the grateful hearts of his countrymen. His character was formed and developed by the influence of our free institutions. That the physical, mental, and moral faculties of Mr. Reed were superior to those of most men, cannot be questioned. They were not cultivated, improved and directed by any influence or circumstances wholly outside of himself.

The road to wealth, to honor and to fame was open to him only through his own efforts; but he very soon made a deep and favorable impression upon the people of his native State, and upon the nation at large. His integrity, and his public and private life were

absolutely spotless, his habits were temperate and his life simple.

He loved his old Portland home and his friends in that city above all else. At the bar and in his Legislative services, he manifested those high qualities as a public speaker, which have secured for him so much popular applause and admiration. His physical and mental organization eminently qualified him to become a great and impressive speaker.

These personal advantages won the prepossessions of an audience, even before his intellectual powers began to move his hearers; and when his strong common sense, his profound reasoning, his clear conceptions of his subject in all its bearings, and his striking and beautiful illustrations, united with such personal qualities were brought to the discussion of any question, his audience was enraptured and convinced. His voice is silent on earth forever. The darkness of death has obscured the luster of his eye. But the memory of his services, not only in the State of Maine, not only to the United States, but for the cause of right and progress throughout the world, will live through future ages, as a bright example, stimulating and encouraging his own countrymen and the people of all nations in their patriotic devotions to country and humanity.

Mr. SEWALL of Bath said:

Your Excellency and Gentlemen of the Assembly: The people for whom I speak can lay claim to none of the peculiar relations existing between other communities represented on this floor, and that leader and master of men who is gone.

There are those who shared his confidence and who had his love, whose hearts must bleed and break at every word we utter here.

There are those of his city and district, of the soil which gave him birth and which has at last received back its own.

There are those of that great party to which his life was in constant antagonism, who in eloquent and chivalrous words have through their representative testified to the spirit behind this antagonism. In eloquent and

chivalrous words has this testimony been given, as we should expect from those who even when stricken by his blows recognized that they were administered as a corrective for their country's good.

If any of these relations be made the test of the privilege of speaking here, the voice of Sagadahoc should be silent.

We were of his political household, but our seat was not at his table. Not even from the abundant surplus of our endorsement of the principles of his party which we never failed to give, were we permitted to contribute to the suffrage which maintained him in that position his genius was so to exalt. He was educated, it is true, in the classic shades just beyond our borders, and some of the chosen friends of his youth were from our city. But these were ancient ties long since dissolved. He had become to us, in the vernacular of the coast, as a craft with whose build we were once familiar, but which had, since leaving us, acquired such breadth of beam, and draft of water, that we could no longer expect to see her navigate in our vicinity.

Mr. President, eulogy, eulogy of the sort common to these occasions, eulogy without discrimination, seems out of place here. He would not have had it. It was distasteful to the living. It were scarcely less than disloyalty to the dead.

Even this ceremony, so natural and gratifying to us, would not have been of his choosing. He believed that public servants were trustees of the people's time, and that these ceremonies were wasteful of that time. He used to cite with approbation, you will remember, the instance of the death of that other great Commoner, John Bright, and the action of the British House of Commons, which, when he died, decided it would best honor his memory by proceeding with the country's business.

Speaking, then, with the frankness characteristic of the man, and which he demanded from others if they were to have his respect, we may not conceal the fact that we did not always agree with him. But if he differed, he

did not dissemble. And our troubles in life, whether in politics or any other relation, come not from such men as he, but from such as he was not, from those who being all things to all men, and in the final analysis in being but one thing to all men, and that falsity itself. And this was his greatest service, that he made sincerity a jewel to be prized even in politics, and that he wrote down in the lexicon of politics, so that he who runs may read and read forever, the lack of sincerity as the basest and most unpardonable of sins. It cost him dear, it cost him success as a politician in the popular acceptance of the term, it cost him—who that knows will say what it did not cost him?

But all this was not to be in vain. Reed hastened the coming of another day, a day when public service shall be emancipated from the stigma too often attaching to it, the stigma of selfishness, of unworthy motives and corrupt methods, when public service shall stand for what he stood for, devotion to country, without fear and without reproach, for comparative poverty, too, if in this poverty it shall have been begun.

And when that day comes, as come it must and will, men shall dare to proclaim themselves what they are, and not profess to be what they are not, to catch the passing fancy. It will be a day of intrepidity of intellect which will refuse, as his refused, to take on "the harness of routine and obsequiousness." Partisanship there shall be in that day, warm and ardent as was his own, but it shall be a partisanship which will elevate, as he elevated, political discussion to the plane of philosophy. A partisanship too which shall recognize the truth as he recognized and declared it, that thrice in a century the time comes when it is the duty of every honest man "to reconsider his situation and to see if his party means what he means."

Reed did this for posterity, if not for us, and posterity will account him great. The world did so while he was yet of it, and such a verdict history does not set aside.

Mr. GOODWIN of Somerset, said:
Your Excellency and Gentlemen of the Assembly:

I hold it one of the greatest privileges of my life, in my humble way, to bring the tribute of one flower of love to lay upon the grave of him, whose death we mourn, today; and if every friend of his throughout the length and breadth of this fair land should bring but one flower to his grave, that grave would be a very wilderness of flowers, wherein the odor of the orange blossoms of the South and the roses of the West would mingle with the perfume of the pine.

For Mr. Reed had "troops" of friends. He was not, as has often been written, cold and cynical. He was a kind and lovable man, genial and generous, sympathetic and loyal, and those who were once admitted to the magic circle of his friendship were bound to him by hooks of steel.

He was singularly pure in his private life, his habits, his thoughts and associates. I never heard him utter a profane or improper word, or voice a sentiment that the purest lady in the land might not have heard.

Mr. Reed was intensely independent, absolutely self-reliant. Brave and courageous, he never weakened in the face of opposition.

Honest and incorruptible, he never "crooked the pregnant knee, that thrift might follow fawning." After 20 years of public service he laid down the gavel of the House, and, like Cincinnatus of old, returned to his early vocation to earn a competency for himself and family, as poor as when he entered the public service. A splendid commentary on the native integrity and honesty of a great statesman. An honorable example for the illustrious youth who would follow in his footsteps.

He never hurried, yet he was always prepared. He never did a great act but that he seemed capable of doing a greater. He was possessed to a wonderful degree of reserve power.

The Speaker's room at Washington, during his rule, was the rendezvous of the brightest minds of our country. Eminent scientists, famous writers, powerful financial magnates and great social leaders, all found in him a receptive mind and a sympathetic listener.

He was a philosopher, accurate in his judgment of his fellow men. In a single sentence he could sum up the foibles and weakness of mankind. Once, in the Speaker's room during the quorum fight, a Southern congressman came into the room and told Mr. Reed, with extravagant praise, what a great man he was, that his ruling was right, and only the stress of party politics made him oppose the same. Mr. Reed received it all with his usual politeness, and when the congressman had retired he turned in his chair and said, "You want to beware of a statesman when he begins to exude molasses."

He grasped a situation quickly, and at once perceived the weak points of his adversary's case. At one time, after he had made his quorum ruling, he counted as present those who refused to vote; and

his opponents, rising from their seats and wildly gesticulating, surged down the aisles crying out, "Czar! Usurper! Tyrant!" As soon as he could make himself heard, his voice rang out in that inimitable drawl of his, "Will the gentlemen who say they are not present please resume their seats?" The sarcasm of that single sentence brought them to a realizing sense of the absurdity of their position as nothing else could do.

Before Mr. Reed, we had two great Speakers of the House of Representatives, Mr. Clay and Mr. Blaine. Both were aggressive, eager, earnest and quick to strike when the opportunity offered. In all this Mr. Reed was their equal. But he was their superior in his ability to command and lead his followers on to victory. He was the greatest parliamentarian our country has ever known. He dominated the House of Representatives. He ruled it with a master hand.

I always think of Mr. Reed presiding over the House of Representatives as some colossal god of mythology, dispensing justice to humanity—adored and loved by his followers, feared yet admired by his enemies.

Sir, the mystery of death has never yet been solved. We do not know when we wrap the mantle of the grave about us whether we shall lie down to dreamless sleep through all eternity or shall awaken with the coming of another dawn in a new world, where the flowers always bloom and the birds forever sing. But, sir, if there is anything that teaches me to believe in immortality and makes me think there is a life beyond the grave, it is the fact that the great mind, the comprehensive intellect, the loving heart and infinite genius of Thomas Brackett Reed cannot be lost and gone forever. Somewhere, in the great mystery of the future, that mighty spirit must be working out the problems of eternity and waiting upon the other shore with loving eagerness for the coming of the loved ones whom he left behind. The star that sets must rise again.

In this legislative hall, Mr. Reed began his career which culminated in so much honor and renown. It is eminently fitting that in this same hall the people of the State he loved so well should pay to him the last sad rites of mortality.

His work is o'er, but his influence will be felt as long as legislative bodies convene, or governments of, for and by the people endure.

"Were a star quenched on high,

For ages would its light,
Still traveling downward from the sky,
Shine on our mortal sight.
So when a great man dies,

For years beyond our ken,
The light he leaves behind him, lies
Upon the paths of men."

MR. SWETT of Portland said:—Your Excellency and Gentleman of the Assembly:

Whoever has visited the Smithsonian Institute in Washington and looked upon

the relics and mementoes of our great men, the arms and accoutrements of Grant, the desk of Lincoln, the pen of Webster, the uniform and equipments of Jackson, the staff of Franklin and the sword of Washington, have felt the natural impulse to take some of those objects in his hands, to poise and weigh and measure them, but has been deterred by the cautionary placard "Not to be handled," placed there lest some too curious or careless hand should disturb the careful arrangement or expose some flaw or weakness which might damage or destroy the sacred relic.

And often as we contemplate the life and records of the dead, "de mortuis nil nisi bonum," reminds us like the cautionary placard not to investigate or scrutinize too closely.

But no such charitable precaution is necessary as we review the life of Thomas B. Reed. His bitterest enemy might write the record of his life and if he set down nothing but the truth, his dearest friend would not desire to expurgate a page or paragraph. His character, like virgin gold, withstands the acid of all criticism.

He was not typical. He was unique. He suggests no other statesman whom the English-speaking world have produced.

He combined the brilliant power of leadership of James G. Blaine, the rugged honesty of Hannibal Hamlin, the Puritan integrity of purpose of William Pitt Fessenden, the simple modesty of Grant, the wit and humor of Lincoln, the profound wisdom of Webster, the dauntless determination of Jackson, the keen philosophy of Franklin, and the pure patriotism of Washington, with a body, brain, heart, soul and mind of equal titanic stature.

"The front of Jove himself,
An eye like Mars, to threaten and command;

A combination and a form indeed,
Where every god did seem to set his seal
To give the world assurance of a man."

And from the Canada line to the Rio Grande, from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean, in all the length and breadth of our fair land, there was nothing that was more American than he.

It has been said that not a man of our times in Congress, has been less understood, outside of Washington. Two comments frequently made show how superficial and uninformed was the general opinion of him throughout the country. One was that he was not a constructive statesman, and the other that he could not make a successful long speech. In the twenty-two years of his service in the House, he had no opportunity to fasten his name on any important measure. For all but eight years of the time, his party was in the majority, while for six, out of the eight years he was in the chair. Yet no man living or dead had more to do with constructing the legislation passed by the House, when his party was in the majority. While he

was Speaker he made the legislation of the party besides making it possible. He was the master of his own side before he was the master of the House.

When he began his parliamentary reform, in the fifty-first Congress, with a narrow Republican majority, enough Republicans disagreed with him to have defeated his purpose, if they had opposed him openly. He thought out then what he would do, if his Republican opponents united with the Democrats against him. He would have announced his resignation, and retired from Congress. But, although some strong men on the Republican side differed with him, they did not venture to oppose him publicly. After the great shout of triumph that went up from the Republicans when he began so suddenly to count a quorum, from that time he was the constructive statesman of the House, for six years, and until he left it. It is true that he did not often make long speeches, but that was because he did not like long speeches; and never made them if he could help it. He thought that a man ought to be able to say all that was worth saying in a short speech, unless the circumstances were very exceptional, and that, as a rule, long speeches were artificial, and he hated anything that was artificial.

A striking illustration of this point occurred in the debate upon the quorum rule. A distinguished Democrat, a former Speaker of the House, had made an able and elaborate argument against the right and power of the presiding officer to count him as present if he declined to answer to the roll-call; but his argument was swept away, and destroyed by Mr. Reed's comment. "The gentleman has consumed an hour and a half in endeavoring to prove to the House that he is not here."

There was no theatricals in his statesmanship, no posing for popularity, no catering for applause.

"He would not flatter Neptune for his trident,
Nor Jove for's power to thunder"

At the supreme moment of his public life, when he emancipated parliamentary procedure by the boldest, bravest and wisest decision that ever emanated from the presiding officer of the greatest legislative body in the world; he encountered the fiercest and most scurrilous assault ever made upon a presiding officer in the Congress of the United States. Accused of seeking to put upon his head a crown of glory at the expense of the rights of the House of Representatives, stigmatized as "revolutionary," "corrupt," "a usurper" in defiance of parliamentary law, "a scurvy politician in defiance of right and justice," denounced from the floor of the House as "the worst tyrant that ever presided over a deliberative body," he held his course serene, dignified and masterful and calmly answered "The House will not allow itself to be deceived by epithets. No man can describe the action and judgment of this chair in language which will endure unless that in-

scription be true. Whatever is done, has been done in the face of the world, and is subject to its discriminating judgment."

For this greatest service rendered to the National House of Representatives since the adoption of the constitution, he was refused the customary courtesy of the unanimous thanks of the House to a retiring Speaker, for the first time in the history of the country; and in the solitude of the Speaker's room, with his noble head bowed upon his desk, and his great heart full to overflowing, in bitter tears he realized the irony of greatness.

"He who ascends to mountain tops shall find,
The loftiest peaks most wrapped in clouds
and snow,

He who surpasses or subdues mankind,
Must look down on the hate of those
below.

Though high above the Sun of Glory
glow,
And far beneath the Earth and ocean
spread,

Round him are icy rocks and loudly bow
Contending tempests on his naked head,
And thus reward the toils which to those
summits lead."

But his justification was swift, full and complete, when in the fifty-third Congress, paralyzed and helpless under the old rule the democratic leader rose and said:

"This is the question of whether this House of Representatives of the people of the United States shall have such rules for its government as will enable us to do the business that our constituents have sent us here to do. We have tried the old system, we have been here a month without doing two day's actual business, and our constituents are tired of it; and I hope this House is tired of it; I will hail the adoption of this rule as the dawn of a new era in American legislation."

No justification could be more complete, no victory more triumphant, but with a grander grace and nobler dignity than that of Caesar when he put away the crown, Mr. Reed rose and said:

"Mr. Speaker, I do not desire to address the House again upon the general subject. This scene here today is a more effective address than any I could make. The House is about to adopt the principle for which we contended in the fifty-first Congress; and is about to adopt it under circumstances which show conclusively to the country its value. No words that I can utter can add to the importance of the occasion. I congratulate the fifty-third Congress upon the wise decision that it is about to make."

His devotion to his wife and daughter was the dominant feature of his life and the true index of his character. It was not chiefly because he differed from his party on the question of "Imperialism" or on any other question that he resigned from the House; but because he felt that he could not longer put off the accumulation of a competence to secure the future comfort of his family if he should be taken away. After a quarter

of a century of public service, he retired from office honorably poor and immediately without solicitation on his part, was tendered a partnership in a leading New York law firm with a guaranteed income five times the amount of his salary as Speaker of the House. He was easily pre-eminent in private life as in public office. He was welcomed to the highest circles of literature and art; and however numerous or distinguished was the company, "where the Macgregor sat, was the head of the table."

As Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States he towered in the vanguard of a line of brilliant statesmen, like Saul among the Apostles. As leader of the Republican minority, he stood in the gap at the head of his disseminated cohorts, holding the pass against all odds, and single-handed, in the midst of mighty adversaries, he was like Samson among the Philistines. Death struck him at the zenith of his fame, in full possession of all his splendid powers of intellect, and he fell
 "As fall on Mount Avernus, a lightning-smitten oak."

But Death has won no victory over Thomas B. Reed. Thank God there are some things that Death cannot destroy or take away.

"It cannot take away the grace of life—
 Its comeliness of look that virtue gives—
 Its port erect with consciousness of truth—
 Its rich attire of honorable deeds—
 It's fair report that's rife on good men's
 tongues—

It cannot lay its hands on these, no more
 Than it can pluck his brightness from
 the Sun,

Or with polluted finger tarnish it."

Mr. Swett subsequently moved that when the question was put on the adoption of the resolutions, it be taken by a rising vote.

The CHAIR: You have heard the resolutions which have been offered by the gentleman from Cumberland (Mr. Randall), and it has been moved that when the vote is taken it be by a rising vote. All those who favor the passage of the resolutions will manifest it by standing in their places.

The members arose.

The CHAIR: The resolutions have been unanimously adopted.

The purposes for which the assembly was called having been accomplished, it was dissolved, and the Governor and his suite and the Senate retired.

Mr. SWETT of Portland: Mr. Speaker, as a further mark of respect to the memory of Mr. Reed, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to.