

EXTRA SESSIONS HELD BY CONGRESS.

Twelve Have Been Called During Former Administrations.

One of the Most Noted Wars That Which Declared War Against Great Britain.

Most Important Was Held Early in Lincoln's First Term, When Civil Strife Raged.

MADE ENORMOUS APPROPRIATIONS. Lawmakers Acted with Great Unanimity. Congress in Session Most of Johnson's Term - McKinley's Probable Action.

Washington, Dec. 19.—During the first weeks of the Congress just convened to subject most frequently discussed will be the extra session which it is now called as certain President McKinley will all, and the talk on this subject will drift eventually, of course, to the extra sessions of the past. Lincoln and Hayes are the most recent examples of Presidents who have called extra sessions without feeling to withering blight of party defeat as the consequence of their acts. It is true Mr. Cleveland was unfortunate enough to give the semblance of a veto to the tradition, but one has had to seek to learn the cause of his misfortune, and the calamities that fell the party cannot be saddled upon the shoulders of the Summer session of the fifty-third Congress.

Twelve extra sessions have been called a the past, forming parts of the Fifth, Eighth, Tenth, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Twenty-fifth, Twenty-seventh, Thirty-fourth, thirty-seventh, Forty-fifth, Forty-sixth and fifty-third Congresses. Congress has assembled on a different date than that established by the Constitution a number of times besides, but on these occasions the dates for convening were set by resolution of the preceding Congress, and not by proclamation. This has not occurred since the sixteenth Congress, except during President Johnson's Administration, but prior hereto such sessions were called in the first, second, third, fifth, sixth, eighth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth Congresses.

Called to Hamper the President. Such sessions were frequently called when the legislative body was strongly opposed to the President, and were intended to hamper the President by holding Congress in session as a guard upon him. The three sessions of the Fortieth, Forty-first and Forty-second Congresses were called for the purpose of restraining President Johnson from availing himself of any of the privileges he might claim during the absence of Congress from the capital. He was thus prevented from making any appointment during the time that sessions, and could commit no act without the co-operation of Congress. The first session of the Fortieth Congress was continued by frequent adjournments from the 4th of March until the 2d of December, when it adjourned sine die. Congress distrusted the President, and it was deemed advisable that he should not be allowed to have control of events for eight months without the supervision of the legislative branch of the government. These sessions were not extra sessions, as only sessions called by proclamations of the President are so known.

Extra Sessions of Congress. The extra sessions of Congress convened by proclamation are as follows: Fifth Congress, First Session—Assembled May 15, 1807, adjourned July 10, 1807, by President Adams. Relations with Great Britain. Twelfth Congress, First Session—Assembled November 4, 1811, adjourned July 6, 1812, by President Madison. Relations with Great Britain. Thirteenth Congress, Third Session—Assembled September 16, 1814, adjourned March 2, 1815, by President Madison. Relations with Great Britain. Twenty-fifth Congress, First Session—Assembled September 4, 1837, adjourned October 16, 1837, by President Jackson. Condition of Louisiana. Twelfth Congress, First Session—Assembled October 20, 1807, adjourned April 25, 1808, by President Adams. Relations with Great Britain. Twelfth Congress, First Session—Assembled November 4, 1811, adjourned July 6, 1812, by President Madison. Relations with Great Britain. Twelfth Congress, First Session—Assembled November 4, 1811, adjourned July 6, 1812, by President Madison. Relations with Great Britain.

Work in W. H. Harrison's Term. The conditions of business depression and general distress which had characterized the Administration of Van Buren were in no material sense altered when Harrison was inaugurated. The President's first important official act of his short administration was the proclamation of the Government's neutrality in the European war between England and France. This proclamation was issued March 12, 1841, and called Congress together May 31, 1841. This session was continued until the 13th of the following September. The Sub-treasury act was enacted, and a National Bankrupt law was enacted. This humane law accomplished a great good. Thousands of men and enterprises had been crushed by the business depression of the few years preceding, and were so laden with debt as to be chained to a narrow sphere of action. The law not only relieved them, but bore heavily upon the creditor class for awhile, its operations were beneficial. The most important extra session of Congress ever called together was that convened by President Lincoln at the outbreak of the Civil War. On April 4, 1861, after Sumner had been fired upon, he issued his proclamation calling upon Congress to meet in extra session on the 4th of July. Congress assembled on that historic date and remained in session thirty-four days. The condition of the most serious character of the several foreign nations had recognized the independence of the Confederate Government and extend them material aid. During the session the country of battle at Bull Run were heard at the National Capitol, and the great conflict grew in size and importance. The view of the world in this extra session of Congress established a record for businesslike legislation. The measures of this session were all of the character made necessary by the war in progress. The action of the President in calling out troops was approved, and authority was given for raising 300,000 additional troops. War measures of all kinds were adopted with a unanimity and clearness of purpose seldom observed in the workings of Congress. An appropriation of \$500,000,000 was made to defray the expense of the war, and the army and navy volunteers, to increase the navy, to give better organization of the military, to secure an increase of the imports, to revise the tariff and internal revenue duties, and to impose a direct tax of \$20,000,000 were the fruit of this extra session. President Hayes called two extra sessions, one in 1877 and one in 1878. Both were called because of the failure of Congress to meet on the appointed day. The last extra session, the twelfth in the history of Congress, was called by President McKinley, and the incidents connected with it, and too recent to be reviewed at length.

Shoplifters Confess Their Guilt. Mary Morrison, twenty-two years of age, of No. 222 West Twenty-seventh street, was caught Friday night stealing a \$400 coat from a large clothing store. She was taken to the Market Court trial. John Gillet, whose address is No. 304 E. 14th street, was caught in a Fourth street store stealing and admitted his guilt. He was held in \$500 bail for trial.

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There is a make-shift proposition in consideration to enact a law for the substitution of a single-headed commission for the five commissioners serving under authority of the laws of 1885. That commission has suffered the perpetration of the abuses which exist, and in addition has gobbled up all the appointments for the personal following of the Commissioners. The abuses are not the cause for the new bill, but the institution of personal machinations is the thing to be done away with. Platt wants a dummy Commissioner who will have no ambition as Superintendent Aldridge, Hedges, Russell and others have had, and who have made the Capitol work feeding places for their men. Such leaders as Congressman Odell, Edward Lantieri, Lou Pava, Frank S. Black, William Barnes and Alexander S. Fred Nixon, have been compelled to wait the pleasure of the Commissioners to secure the appointment of workmen to the Capitol, and often have been turned down. This they will seek to remedy, but not a word can be heard as to economy in the expenditures of the money appropriated for the building—only a complaint that they could not get their men to work because of the hunger of Aldridge, Saxton and Russell for places for their followers. The Capitol Commissioners are now working over their annual report, in which they will seek to tell of the work that has been accomplished on the building under the appropriation of \$810,000 made last May, and which was made on a report that the Capitol could be completed for that sum outside of the work to be done by contract as advised by Governor Morton. This was in the face of the fact that for four years past an annual statement has been made that the completion could be had for such a sum. The appropriation of the fund asked has always resulted in the making of a new demand the next year, with specious excuses for the failures. The Commission will appeal to the Legislature early in the session for a new appropriation, and there is no doubt of the occurrence of an elegant row, to be started by those who failed to get work for their men on the building. The appropriation bill will be juggled until the dissatisfied ones are appeased with places for their henchmen. That, at least, is the game that is usually played. Forgive me for saying so, but the next moment, however, the recognition was complete, and after a hearty handshake the man's name was dropped. Broderick changed circumstances, and bits of real-estate happenings in days long gone by were excused by the great light of "Brother Bonaventure" and his history. "Brother Bonaventure" had but little to say regarding his disappearance, save that he had left a sum which he had to care for. "I never forget friends," said the Brother, "but I do not remember you." "So see, but we have fought the same flames on earth together so often that surely you cannot have forgotten Dan Kelly."

For a moment or two Quigg was dumfounded. It was like having a weeping willow in the eye. The next moment, however, the recognition was complete, and after a hearty handshake the man's name was dropped. Broderick changed circumstances, and bits of real-estate happenings in days long gone by were excused by the great light of "Brother Bonaventure" and his history. "Brother Bonaventure" had but little to say regarding his disappearance, save that he had left a sum which he had to care for. "I never forget friends," said the Brother, "but I do not remember you." "So see, but we have fought the same flames on earth together so often that surely you cannot have forgotten Dan Kelly."

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WORKMEN ASSESSED FOR GIFTS. During the past year there has been a startling increase in the number of gifts made and internal revenue duties, and other. There is a large circulation that any workman not willing to contribute some had an opportunity to find a new job. The workmen also say that Stevenson persecutes them; that one time he said to a veteran, "If it wasn't for that button you wouldn't be here." There is also an accusation that Buckley & Co., a firm of contractors, have privileges not granted to other contractors, and that because of the granting of the contract the workmen persecuted them. The Commission are delayed in their work. All these things are likely to be brought up in some way before the Legislature, and the resulting scandals will make the Capitol completion an issue in the State campaign next year. The extra sessions are to be elected, also a Legislature that will choose a successor to Edward Murphy, Jr., as United States Senator.

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"New York, Dec. 4, 1896. "Colonel George E. Waring, Commissioner, D. S. C. "Sir—I may appear to you that my action was rash and unwarranted. I therefore write this perhaps impertinent letter to explain the same and to dispel this illusion. "As you are undoubtedly aware, I am compelled to work twelve hours each day and every day in the year, including Sundays and holidays. Now, I have worked during the past two years this great number of hours without losing a single moment. In fact, I have worked overtime repeatedly, as the stable blotter will show, whenever it became necessary to do so. "Now, to a man of my character this constant restraint, or rather imprisonment, for the past two years was unbearable, and therefore my action. "Now this restraint is also placed on the other clerks, and I therefore ask you to reduce their time of work. Give them eight hours. They work hard and well and deserve this consideration. In fact, as the matter now stands, they are compelled to work twelve hours a day for seven days, or eighty-four hours a week, for the same pay that a man in a lower rank, with no responsibility and who needs but little indulgence, received for eight hours a day for six days a week, or forty-eight hours a week. "The clerk receives the same compensation of \$14; they do not receive pay for Sundays as the sweepers. The sweepers have his Sundays, and a half day on holidays, which the unfortunate clerk cannot receive. The clerks would be only too glad to work on Sundays and holidays, without any time off, could they have eight hours a day. "I appeal to your sense of justice and fairness, and ask that you give these men more time to themselves. "It takes some of them two hours to go to and from their work, which leaves them but ten hours in which to eat their meals, prepare for work and to sleep. Do you see, I consider it but existing, and, therefore, I leave it. "Should they happen to be late in the morning or the evening, or should they leave before their time of duty is done, they would be fined for absence from their post of duty. As they are compelled to leave their names in the stable blotter every time they leave or return to the

stable their absence would be easily discovered. "I ask, you therefore, to reduce their hours of work. (Several pages of the letter are here devoted to eulogies of various officers of the Department.) "My father was born in 1835 in Saxony, Germany. He was the oldest son of the Count von Lairsch, his name being Edmund von Lairsch. "I was born March 7, 1874. . . . My father was sentenced to exile from Germany for forty-five years. In 1902 he can return to Germany and claim his estate. In the event of his decease his oldest son, my brother Henry, who is now working in the store with him, will come into the title of Count von Lairsch, and will receive the estates. "As for myself, I am the younger son, and have the title perpetually of Baron. Your obedient servant. "W. C. LAIRSCH (HEINECKE), "Day Clerk Stable 'C.'"

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Posthumous Plea for the Clerks in the Street Cleaning Department.

Compelled to Work Longer Than the Sweepers and for the Same Wages Only.

KILLED HIMSELF BECAUSE OF IT. Only Ten Hours in Which to Eat, Sleep and Obtain Recreation from Labor in the Stables of the City.

Colonel Waring, of the Street Cleaning Department, received an extraordinary communication yesterday from a former employe of his department. The envelope containing it was stained with the blood of the writer—Walter Lairsch Heinecke—who shot himself through the head in the department's Harlem stables two weeks ago yesterday. The envelope was not discovered until Friday, when the young man's father, Edmund Heinecke, a watchmaker, No. 29 East Houston street and No. 27 West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street, found it in a pocket of the coat which his son had on when he destroyed himself. The communication gave the first explanation of the motive for young Heinecke's act. With the exception of some irrelevant paragraphs, it is as follows:

"New York, Dec. 4, 1896. "Colonel George E. Waring, Commissioner, D. S. C. "Sir—I may appear to you that my action was rash and unwarranted. I therefore write this perhaps impertinent letter to explain the same and to dispel this illusion. "As you are undoubtedly aware, I am compelled to work twelve hours each day and every day in the year, including Sundays and holidays. Now, I have worked during the past two years this great number of hours without losing a single moment. In fact, I have worked overtime repeatedly, as the stable blotter will show, whenever it became necessary to do so. "Now, to a man of my character this constant restraint, or rather imprisonment, for the past two years was unbearable, and therefore my action. "Now this restraint is also placed on the other clerks, and I therefore ask you to reduce their time of work. Give them eight hours. They work hard and well and deserve this consideration. In fact, as the matter now stands, they are compelled to work twelve hours a day for seven days, or eighty-four hours a week, for the same pay that a man in a lower rank, with no responsibility and who needs but little indulgence, received for eight hours a day for six days a week, or forty-eight hours a week. "The clerk receives the same compensation of \$14; they do not receive pay for Sundays as the sweepers. The sweepers have his Sundays, and a half day on holidays, which the unfortunate clerk cannot receive. The clerks would be only too glad to work on Sundays and holidays, without any time off, could they have eight hours a day. "I appeal to your sense of justice and fairness, and ask that you give these men more time to themselves. "It takes some of them two hours to go to and from their work, which leaves them but ten hours in which to eat their meals, prepare for work and to sleep. Do you see, I consider it but existing, and, therefore, I leave it. "Should they happen to be late in the morning or the evening, or should they leave before their time of duty is done, they would be fined for absence from their post of duty. As they are compelled to leave their names in the stable blotter every time they leave or return to the

stable their absence would be easily discovered. "I ask, you therefore, to reduce their hours of work. (Several pages of the letter are here devoted to eulogies of various officers of the Department.) "My father was born in 1835 in Saxony, Germany. He was the oldest son of the Count von Lairsch, his name being Edmund von Lairsch. "I was born March 7, 1874. . . . My father was sentenced to exile from Germany for forty-five years. In 1902 he can return to Germany and claim his estate. In the event of his decease his oldest son, my brother Henry, who is now working in the store with him, will come into the title of Count von Lairsch, and will receive the estates. "As for myself, I am the younger son, and have the title perpetually of Baron. Your obedient servant. "W. C. LAIRSCH (HEINECKE), "Day Clerk Stable 'C.'"

FREE ROLLS AND COFFEE. Brooklyn Sunday Breakfast Association's Work Among the Poor. This praiseworthy and very valuable institution held its fifth anniversary last Tuesday, at No. 543 Atlantic avenue, near Fourth, the whole day being devoted to its interests. It was organized and incorporated in 1891 by a few philanthropists and Christian workers of the city, is quite unsectarian, and supported entirely by voluntary contributions. In the morning the Rev. Dr. Troy, of the People's Christian Church, gave an address on the triumphs of Christianity over all human ills, and was followed by Mr. D. S. Vetch and others. The evening was occupied by Meses. Martin, Bailey, Clair and Miss Hanna, who gave graphic details of how this Christian mission had grown and prospered in these five years. The exercises were interspersed with choice music, sung by Mrs. Taylor and daughter, and Mrs. Humphries. The object of this association is to promote Christianity and temperance principles, to hold on the reckless, the forlorn and destitute of all nationalities by administering to all comers two rolls and three cups of coffee every Sunday morning. In the past year 16,564 men attended and were cured for 1,375 were at the Bible class; Monday evening classes, 725 were present; 18,234, or 165 per night, of homeless men found shelter. Last Sunday 180 hungry men were fed with rolls and coffee.

James Quigg Found Him at Last. As Brother Bonaventure, He Conducted Quigg and His Party Through the Cells and Living Quarters Where the Monks Live. After years of mystery regarding the disappearance of Daniel Kelly, an old volunteer fireman of the Eleventh Ward, this city, he was unexpectedly discovered yesterday by one of his boyhood companions under rather interesting circumstances in Hoboken. Although Kelly had seemingly stepped off the earth shortly before the war, as far as most of his friends were concerned, his immediate family and a few others knew of his whereabouts, but as the years rolled by he was almost forgotten, and his deeds of bravery and interesting personalities were only recalled in connection with the Mechanics' Volunteer Hose Company, No. 47, which Kelly had joined in the Spring of 1889. All the old firemen knew him, and N. K. Thompson, one of his most intimate acquaintances when the old Mechanics' Hose Company was in its prime, subsequently moved to Elizabeth, N. J., where he became chief engineer of the Fire Department and later on Sheriff of the county. He had often wondered what became of Dan, and finally heard that he had joined some holy order and retired into obscurity. But this seemed a trifle odd, as in the good old days before the war Dan was anything but religiously inclined. Not that he leaned to any great extent in the other direction, although he was at all times one of the boys, as the saying goes. Yesterday morning James M. Quigg, who ran to numerous fires with Dan Kelly, in company with two friends, went to Hoboken to pay a visit to an old associate. While there they decided to call at the solemn old St. Michael's Monastery, which is conducted by the Passionist Fathers, one of the strictest orders of the Catholic Church. They were kindly received by the attendant at the door, and a few moments later the visitors were placed in charge of Brother Bonaventure to be shown through the interesting apartments where the monks abide. Brother Bonaventure was a most picturesque looking man, with his brown curly hair, with cord and rosary, and as he conducted the laymen through the monastery he seemed to pay special attention to Quigg, who was deeply interested in all he saw. After inspecting the chapel, the cells where the monks sleep, the gardens and the daily volunteer firemen, Brother Bonaventure, standing close to Quigg, remarked in a low voice: "Your name is James Quigg, is it not?" "Certainly is," replied Quigg; "and you can't ask me for the name?" "I am Brother Bonaventure," came the reply, smilingly. "I never forget friends," said the Brother, "but I do not remember you." "So see, but we have fought the same flames on earth together so often that surely you cannot have forgotten Dan Kelly."

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