

Now, it seems to me that that is certainly something new in legislation—to provide that a member of a committee who is simply discharging his duties as a member of that committee in compiling certain documents should be granted such privilege. The Government paid the expense, as will be found. It will be discovered that the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. RICHARDSON] in the last Congress called for an appropriation of \$600 for clerk hire to do the copying necessary to be done.

As I remember it, he reported at that time that he had spent three or four months in the work of compiling these various messages of Presidents. He has handed them out to the printers, and wherever writing had to be done Congress provided an appropriation of money to pay the clerk. Now, if this report is very valuable, we are establishing a precedent here touching every valuable report prepared by a member of this House and stereotyped at the cost of the Government. That member may be entitled to call upon the House and the Senate to give him a copy of those stereotyped plates that he may use them for his benefit in the future.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. May I suggest to the gentleman that there can be no loss sustained by the Government in giving a duplicate?

Mr. CONNOLLY. I understand that; no more than if the Government should give a duplicate of these plates to every member of this House.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. You understand another thing, that the gentleman got no compensation for this labor.

Mr. CONNOLLY. I understand the gentleman was acting as a member of a committee. I understand that the gentleman himself, after the original introduction—

Mr. LIVINGSTON. The gentleman understands that this was not a report, but a compilation. Do you understand that?

Mr. CONNOLLY. I know exactly what it is.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Do you call that a report?

Mr. CONNOLLY. I have tracked the whole thing through the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, from the time Mr. BAILEY in the Fifty-third Congress introduced a resolution; from the time Mr. RICHARDSON reported back that resolution with a favorable report that this compilation be made. I have tracked the whole thing down, and find that nobody in this House has ever had a thing to do with that compilation, in the way of issuing it, in the way of expending this money, but the gentleman from Tennessee, who is now the beneficiary of this provision in this bill.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. You do not mean to say that the gentleman has been paid for the work, do you?

Mr. CONNOLLY. Paid for the work?

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Yes. Do you mean to say that?

Mr. CONNOLLY. Well, I do not know whether he has been or not. I think I am fairly well paid for all the work I do in this House, and the gentleman from Georgia is paid in the same way.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. That may be. I am not questioning that proposition.

Mr. CONNOLLY. We are all paid here by provision of law. The gentleman from Tennessee simply discharged his duty as a member of the committee, and that he did it well I do not question. But why now come here and give him these plates, that have been prepared at the expense of the Government, and give them to him for commercial purposes in the future? This is a report ordered by Congress and paid for by Congress. There is no reason why any member of this House, any member of that committee, should be allowed now to speculate upon work that has been done by authority of this House.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. May I make one suggestion to the gentleman?

Mr. CONNOLLY. Certainly, sir.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. The public have made up their mind that this was a valuable compilation that they must have. Are you willing to concede that?

Mr. CONNOLLY. I understand the public have made up their mind that it is a valuable compilation.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. How are you going to get it to the public?

Mr. CONNOLLY. We have a provision that all documents not authorized to be distributed shall be turned over to the Superintendent of Public Documents and sold at what it costs the Government, with a percentage added.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. They are exhausted.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Yes, they will be exhausted. That seems to be a part of this scheme.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. I would suggest that that is too small a thing to utter on the floor of this House.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Oh, well, no doubt; but I can utter anything that is true.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. It must be from a very small man.

Mr. CONNOLLY. I can utter anything that is true, sir.

If the edition provided for now shall be exhausted, that has been paid for out of the Treasury of the United States, then the public can get no more volumes of this kind except they go to the counter of the gentleman from Tennessee and buy them.

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. BAILEY. Does the gentleman desire to continue?
Mr. CONNOLLY. I had not said all I intended to say, but my time has expired.

Mr. BAILEY. Mr. Chairman, I believe that every member of this House will agree that the Government has never printed a publication more valuable than these Messages and Papers of the Presidents. I think even the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. CONNOLLY] will not controvert that.

Mr. CONNOLLY. I concede all that, and therefore I do not want to have them monopolized.

Mr. BAILEY. Then, Mr. Chairman, if the publication is as valuable as the gentleman concedes that it is, it must have been compiled with great labor. I introduced the resolution providing for the publication; I did so because on more than one occasion I had searched for messages of the Presidents and it had proved difficult to find them. I have never believed that the Government ought to print many books which it has printed, such as The History of Skunks, or the Horse Book, and I have voted against such publications, but I have believed that the Government ought always to stand ready to furnish the people of this country with an account of its own transactions, and I have felt that it would be of incalculable value to provide the people with easy access to all that our illustrious Presidents have said.

I suggested to the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. RICHARDSON] the propriety of the Government making the publication, and he very promptly said that if I would introduce the resolution and have it referred to the Committee on Printing, he would himself undertake the labor of making the compilation, but neither he nor I had any idea that the work would be so laborious; and I am free to say that if I had known the great labor and time which would be required, I would never have thought of asking any member of this House to undertake such a task. The gentleman from Tennessee has spent months; I might say that he has spent years.

Mr. RICHARDSON. Two years in April.

Mr. BAILEY. The gentleman from Tennessee has spent two years in such labor upon this work as, I undertake to say, the gentleman from Illinois has not bestowed upon the performance of his duties here. Now, sir, to every one of us, in almost every mail, there come requests for this book. I received one this morning. The allotment to which I was entitled being exhausted, so that I could not supply the book, my constituent writes to ascertain if a copy can be purchased. Now, sir, I do not want this great Government to become a bookseller; I do not want the people to have to go to the Government's counter and buy a history of its transactions. We ought to publish a sufficient number of copies to supply the requests for this book or else we ought to put it in the power of the people to procure it at the bookstores.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Can not the gentleman from Tennessee do that by getting plates of his own made? Why give him the Government plates and thus give him a monopoly?

Mr. BAILEY. As a matter of fact, nobody would be entitled to take those plates without the permission of the Government.

Mr. CONNOLLY. That is to say, you want to give the gentleman from Tennessee a copyright and so to give him a monopoly?

Mr. BAILEY. Undoubtedly I would give him a copyright, because his brains have made the work valuable, and I would not deny him the benefit of his own labor.

Mr. CONNOLLY. That is like saying that it is the mechanic who makes the work of the inventor valuable.

Mr. BAILEY. And the Government gives the inventor a patent or a copyright for his invention.

Mr. CONNOLLY. It does not give it to the workman; it gives it to the inventor.

Mr. BAILEY. It gives it to whoever is entitled to obtain it. Now, the gentleman from Illinois does not dispute that for the arrangement and the original matter which the gentleman from Tennessee has contributed to this book he would be entitled to a copyright, except that it has been made a public document. He would not, of course, be entitled to copyright the messages, proclamations, and other public papers, but on the original matter which he has supplied and the arrangement he would be entitled to a copyright.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Did he not do that work as a member of Congress?

Mr. BAILEY. Undoubtedly he undertook the work originally because he was a member of Congress, but neither he nor I believed that it would involve one-fifth of the labor he has bestowed upon it.

[Here the hammer fell.]

Mr. BAILEY. I ask for five minutes more. There was no objection.

Mr. BAILEY. Does not the gentleman from Illinois know that the gentleman from Tennessee was compelled to take every message of every President, go over it line by line and compare it with the printed matter that came from the Printing Office and make the necessary corrections, and does he not know that the gentleman had to hunt through many musty volumes to collect

these messages? Mr. Chairman, knowing the labor that the work has involved, I say to-day that I would not agree to do it for \$5,000; nor is there a gentleman in this House who is qualified to perform it correctly and conscientiously who would attempt it for \$5,000.

Mr. DOLLIVER. Has there been any estimate made of the value of these electrotype plates?

Mr. CONNOLLY. I am informed that they will cost about \$3,000.

Mr. DOLLIVER. I am asking as to their commercial value.

Mr. BAILEY. I do not understand that any such estimate has been made. My concern is as to what this will cost the Government, and I am informed that it will cost less than \$2,000.

Mr. CONNOLLY. I am informed that there is now an offer for these plates of \$10,000 by a responsible firm.

Mr. BAILEY. Would the gentleman be willing to see this Government sell the labor of the gentleman from Tennessee and put the price of it in the Treasury?

Mr. CONNOLLY. Well, the Government is selling your labor now.

Mr. BAILEY. But it is paying me for it.

Mr. CONNOLLY. And it paid the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. BAILEY. It has not paid him one farthing for this work, because this work was entirely outside of and beyond any reasonable Congressional duty.

Mr. CONNOLLY. It was simply the work of a member of a committee.

Mr. BAILEY. Oh, that is quibbling which discredits even the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. TAWNEY. Let me ask the gentleman from Texas if the Government would have had these plates at all if the gentleman from Tennessee had not volunteered to do this work?

Mr. BAILEY. Certainly not; and, as I have said, I would not have introduced the original resolution if I had supposed that there would have been one-fifth as much work involved as the gentleman from Tennessee has performed. Furthermore, the gentleman from Tennessee could have discontinued this work at any time. He was under no obligation to continue it; but he is still engaged in that work down to this very day.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Would you have introduced that resolution if you had understood that the electrotype plates would have been given to the man who made the compilation?

Mr. BAILEY. At that time I would not; but knowing the value of the publication now, I would not hesitate to spend \$5,000 to give the people the benefit of it.

Mr. BROSIUS. Somebody has intimated that under this amendment the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. RICHARDSON] is to have the exclusive right to publish and sell this very valuable work. It seems to me that is a misconception of the fact. It appears to me that the only effect of the provision is to give him without cost duplicates of the electrotype plates from which this compilation has been printed.

Mr. BAILEY. Certainly.

Mr. BROSIUS. Is it not a fact that Mr. RICHARDSON will only have this right concurrently with the Government?

Mr. BAILEY. And with anybody else whom the Government may permit to exercise the right.

Mr. BROSIUS. The Government can go on publishing and selling as many copies as it pleases?

Mr. BAILEY. Certainly. And the Government can authorize any publishing house in the country to furnish these books to the public. But I have said that I would be willing to give the gentleman from Tennessee a copyright of this work because of the valuable service which he has performed. This amendment, however, does nothing of the kind.

Mr. EVANS. Would not any publishing house in the United States have the right to print and publish these volumes without authority from Congress?

Mr. BAILEY. I think so; but there may be some question about that.

Mr. EVANS. I think it would be perfectly competent for them to do so.

Mr. BAILEY. They could undoubtedly print any public document, such as these messages; but as to the arrangement, I doubt if they ought to have that right.

Mr. EVANS. You can not copyright a mere orderly arrangement of these documents.

Mr. BAILEY. But there is original matter.

Mr. TAWNEY. Publishers could put with these documents their own original matter.

Mr. BAILEY. Undoubtedly.

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. If this publication is a public document, is it not open to anyone to print it and publish it and circulate it freely?

Mr. BAILEY. Certainly; and I want to say—

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. Whether it is Mr. RICHARDSON'S work or the work of somebody else, that right would exist,

because these are public documents. Now, it is the custom of the Printing Office at the expiration of a Congress during which plates are used to destroy them, as has been done with work of mine. I have done work which I should have been willing to pay something for, if the plates could have been furnished me. But the plates have been destroyed, and I have not been able to get them. I refer to matter prepared by me, such as tables, etc.

A MEMBER. You can get those from the Printing Office.

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. If I can, I am very glad to know it.

Mr. BAILEY. The gentleman has never performed any public labor which will endure as long as this work will.

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. That is undoubtedly true, but the labor which will endure is embodied in the messages themselves. I think many of us have done work which will endure as long as that which has been put upon these messages by the gentleman from Tennessee.

[Here the hammer fell.]

Mr. BAILEY. Inasmuch as my time has been taken up by other gentlemen, I ask for five minutes more.

There was no objection.

Mr. BAILEY. I believe everybody in this House knows that, as a rule, I am as careful of public money and public property as anybody. But the same reason which makes me careful of public property also makes me careful of the rights of other people. I have no kind of doubt that the gentleman from Tennessee, except for the fact that the Government ordered this matter printed as a public document, would have been entitled to a copyright upon it; but of course a public document is not subject to a private copyright.

The question for the House to determine in this case is simply this—not whether this amendment will give to the gentleman from Tennessee the exclusive right to use the fruits of his own labor; not whether it will give him a copyright, but whether, after he has given years of labor (not yet concluded) to this work, we will give him a duplicate copy of the plates, in order that the people of the United States may have the benefit of his work.

Mr. HEPBURN. I want to call the attention of the gentleman to this language, which I find at the top of page 150:

In making the distribution the fraction or remainder in each case shall be delivered by the Superintendent of Documents to the compiler.

What will be the effect of this bestowal of copies upon the compiler? How many sets will be given to him?

Mr. BAILEY. I have not made any computation.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Nearly 500, worth \$10 a set.

Mr. HEPBURN. Would not the number be somewhat in excess of 700?

Mr. BAILEY. That could hardly be, because it would be absolutely impossible that there could be a remainder exceeding the number of Representatives and Senators.

Mr. CONNOLLY. There would be about 500 sets.

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. I should like to ask the gentleman from Texas [Mr. BAILEY] why he insists upon talking over and over again about giving the gentleman from Tennessee a copyright?

Mr. BAILEY. I have resorted to repetition because I wanted the gentleman from Massachusetts to understand this matter, and I could not make him understand in any other way than by repetition.

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. But the gentleman has said that others could publish these documents just as well as Mr. RICHARDSON.

The CHAIRMAN. Under the order of the House, the Committee of the Whole will now rise.

The SPEAKER resumed the chair.

Mr. CANNON. I ask unanimous consent that the session of this afternoon be temporarily extended for the purpose of completing this bill. We now have under consideration the last amendment.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Illinois asks unanimous consent that this afternoon's session be extended until the consideration of the amendments of the Senate to the sundry civil appropriation bill shall be concluded. Is there objection?

There was no objection.

The House again resolved itself into Committee of the Whole (Mr. PAYNE in the chair) and resumed the consideration of the Senate amendments to the sundry civil appropriation bill.

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. Mr. Chairman, I think the gentleman from Tennessee ought to be compensated in some form for the work he has done in preparing this publication. But that is not the point involved here. The gentleman from Texas has spoken again and again about giving the gentleman from Tennessee a copyright.

Mr. BAILEY. Oh, no; I did not. I said I would be willing to do it. I did not say that such was the effect of the amendment.

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. That was what I understood. Now, if the Government is to keep these plates, if they are to

be preserved, and if the gentleman from Tennessee is simply to have duplicates of them without interfering with the use of them by the Government, I do not object to this proposition. But if he is to have anything in the nature of a copyright, if he is to be allowed the right of exclusive publication of this work, or if the Government is to be put to the expense of resetting the type because the plates are not to be preserved, if the Government is not to have the use of the plates at any time at its discretion without interfering with anybody's copyright, I object most decidedly.

Mr. BAILEY. What I have said is that while I should be glad to give the gentleman from Tennessee a copyright, I would not, of course, expect that he should be granted any right which would exclude the right of the Government in this matter.

A MEMBER. Or anybody else.

Mr. BAILEY. Well, I would exclude everybody but the Government. But this amendment does not raise that question.

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. If the gentleman from Tennessee is to have these plates, they may become a very valuable franchise to him. I am not willing that he should have such an advantage as would prevent any other man from setting up and printing these books, if he chose to do so. This being a public document, I do not understand how a publication of it by any private individual could infringe on any property right of the gentleman from Tennessee. I should like to have placed in the RECORD a complete statement of the gentleman from Tennessee as to the exact effect in his view of this amendment, so that the statement may be binding upon him and upon Congress.

Mr. RICHARDSON. I am glad to avail myself of the opportunity to make a statement in respect to this matter.

The gentleman from Texas [Mr. BAILEY] introduced the resolution in the Fifty-third Congress to provide for the printing of all the messages—annual, special, and veto—as well as inaugural addresses and proclamations of the Presidents. That resolution provided that the Joint Committee on Printing should have this work done. When the joint committee of the Fifty-third Congress, consisting of three Senators and three Representatives, met to consider the resolution, the question arose at once as to who should do this work.

No appropriation had been made to pay for it, and nobody was authorized to do it, except that the joint committee was to provide for having it done. As has been stated by the gentleman from Texas, there had been a conference between him and myself in respect to this matter. I had said to him that I would be willing to do the work. I made the same statement to the joint committee, and I was at once authorized to commence the work. I came here in April, 1895, just two years ago, and spent here the greater portion of the summer upon this work.

I supposed in the first instance that I could make the compilation in two, three, or four months at the furthest. I spent five or six months here at that time, engaged upon the work, and afterwards returned about a month before the meeting of Congress and resumed my labor. I found it a much greater work than I had anticipated. I will state upon my honor as a member that I have devoted not less than two to three hours per day on an average for nearly two years to this compilation in its varied forms, etc. It was exceedingly desirable to prevent errors from creeping into a document of this nature, and which was by the authority of the Government.

I repeat, that this work has occupied me from two to three hours a day for over two years. I have asked no compensation for the work at the hands of Congress. I have faithfully endeavored to make this compilation what it purports to be—a complete compilation of all Presidential papers. I have arranged them, or attempted to arrange them, in chronological order.

I do not believe there has been a message exceeding one sentence in length, if it contained a recommendation of the Executive, omitted from this compilation. But I am not here to boast of it. It speaks for itself. The work is not yet completed. I have the documents compiled down to Mr. Benjamin Harrison's Administration. Since that date they are not compiled. Those three volumes have been issued, and the fourth one will be delivered to members and the public within the next week.

Now, having done this much, a number of Members and Senators have volunteered to say to me I should have compensation. Gentlemen have said to me almost daily, "You ought to be compensated for this work." Gentlemen on both sides of the House and in the other branch of Congress have said this. I was called to the Senate committee when they were considering this sundry civil bill in the closing hours of the last Congress, and they then offered to put on an appropriation in money to me. I had hesitation about accepting compensation. I said to them, "I do not ask you to do that. Wait, anyway, until the work is completed, and let us see what it will be."

The Senate committee then did not put in any compensation, and their action was at my request. They put into the bill, however, a further provision which was not in this bill as it originally passed the House, a further amendment which the gentleman from

Illinois will remember—I mean the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations in the Fifty-fourth Congress [Mr. CANNON]. They added words here which require the compiler to make a complete index of all these public documents from the foundation of the Government down to the 4th of last March.

That was done in February last. Mr. Chairman, that was no part of the compiler's original work. At the rate we pay for making indexes it would cost the Government, if it was done by some outside party, I do not know how much, but not less than \$10,000 to make that index. We pay \$1.20 a page to index the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. There are about 12,000 pages of that RECORD every Congress—I mean every two sessions. That makes it cost about fifteen or sixteen thousand dollars to make an index of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD every Congress.

Here I am called upon to make an index to this large compilation which will be subjected to the book critics. If you gentlemen read the New York Sun and New York Nation, as I know many of you do, you will find this publication has been pretty closely examined and reviewed by the most eminent book critics in the United States. So far I flatter myself that the criticisms have not been very unfavorable; but I am called upon to make this index. It would require almost a year's time of constant work to make it.

I am carrying that index along with the volumes as they are issued from the press, and I have it prepared down to and including the fourth volume, which you have not yet seen. I got advance sheets of it from the office, and have made the index up to date. This work, in addition to the compiling, is occupying me these two or three hours a day that I speak of, and has taken the time for the last two years. I mention these facts that you may see something of the work that rests upon me.

That index may not be satisfactory—you know indexes are usually unsatisfactory—but I am doing the best I can with it. I should have made the index if that provision had not been put in the sundry civil bill by the committee in the Senate. I suggested it to them, there in the Senate committee, and told them that I was already preparing the index and intended to have it ready when the work was completed.

I am glad the gentleman from Illinois brought this up. It enables me to make the statement. I declined the suggestion of money compensation for the work when it was offered. Some gentlemen suggested another method of compensation which it is not necessary to refer to. I said, "Put this in." Suppose it costs \$3,000? I do not know exactly what it will cost. The late Public Printer told me he thought it would cost from 15 to 20 cents a page to make these duplicate plates, but he did not claim to have accurate knowledge. If it costs 20 cents a page, there are about 600 pages in a book, that will be \$120 a book. If there are ten books, that would be \$1,200. There will be ten or eleven volumes—ten volumes and an index. I think it will cost more than 20 cents per page to make the duplicate plates. The gentleman from Illinois says it will cost over \$3,000, and I take it he is correct.

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. I ask that the gentleman's time be extended.

There was no objection.

Mr. RICHARDSON. I will be as brief as I can, Mr. Chairman. I was stating what it will cost. I think it will cost more than 20 cents a page, possibly 50 cents per page. This does not take the plates from the Printing Office. I will say to my friend from Massachusetts [Mr. WALKER] that the former rule of the Printing Office was, whenever there was a publication that exceeded 2,500 copies the Public Printer, in the exercise of his discretion, had made stereotype or electrotype plates. The law now requires them to be made when there is reason to believe that the matter will be printed a second time.

These plates are usually preserved if they are deemed valuable. I do not refer by that to the value of the matter that is printed; but if he supposes there will be a subsequent call by Congress for a reprint of the document, he preserves the plates. He can not always tell and does not always preserve them. In the case now pending the electrotype plates are already made. This bill will simply give me duplicates, and the law provides that any man can buy a duplicate of those plates.

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. Of what plates—any plates?

Mr. RICHARDSON. Any plates.

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. I have been informed exactly the contrary.

Mr. RICHARDSON. I have looked in my desk to find a copy of the printing law, but I can not lay my hands on it. If the gentleman will look at the act passed on the 12th of January, 1895, known as the printing law, he will find this provision in it: that all plates in the Government Printing Office may be sold; that is, duplicates, not the originals. The originals remain there, and the Government can always use them when it wishes to do so; but duplicate plates may be sold at the cost of the metal that enters into them and the composition, and 10 per cent added. That is the law.

Mr. BROWN. Will the gentleman yield for a question?

Mr. RICHARDSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. BROWN. Will the gentleman kindly answer this: Does he understand that when he shall receive the property in these plates that he would be entitled to copyright the work?

Mr. RICHARDSON. No; not at all. This amendment does not give me any right to copyright.

Mr. BROWN. If the gentleman owned the plates, would he have the right to copyright the work? I understood the gentleman from Texas [Mr. BAILEY] a few moments ago to say that while the messages and papers themselves could not be copyrighted, the gentleman from Tennessee would probably have the right to copyright the work as an arrangement of them. Now, I would like to have the gentleman answer that.

Mr. RICHARDSON. I will answer the gentleman. This amendment does not provide for any copyright or for any copyright privilege. If I have any right to copyright this work, I have the right to do it under the law, regardless of this amendment.

Mr. BROWN. Very good. If the gentleman becomes the owner of these plates; and thereafter copyrights this publication, what, then, is the attitude of the Government and of Congress, in spite of the gentleman's copyright, to proceed to print?

Mr. RICHARDSON. Undoubtedly the Government could print the work. The same law to which I referred the gentleman from Massachusetts provides that no Government publication shall be copyrighted. You can not copyright a Government publication. The law is explicit upon that subject.

Mr. EVANS. Will the gentleman allow me to ask him a question?

Mr. RICHARDSON. Certainly.

Mr. EVANS. I want the gentleman to make this proposition clear. If I understand the scope of this amendment, as it would operate under the present printing law, it would give to the compiler of this work a copy of the electrotype plates. That is the fact about it.

Mr. RICHARDSON. That is all.

Mr. TAWNEY. Allow me to ask the gentleman a question in the same connection, and that is whether anybody would have the right to go to the Printing Office and buy these duplicates?

Mr. RICHARDSON. Undoubtedly anyone can get duplicates of stereotype plates made by the Government.

Mr. EVANS. Let me complete my thought. So that if this amendment were to pass, the whole compensation that the compiler would get for his two years of work would be the cost to the Government of giving him this electrotype copy—not over \$1,200?

Mr. RICHARDSON. Maybe it would be over \$1,200. I do not say that it would not be more than \$1,200. I suppose it would be.

Mr. EVANS. And the copies that you would have of the work would be the fraction of 285?

Mr. RICHARDSON. I have not counted the fraction. I have called upon literary men throughout the United States to assist me, particularly in obtaining the proclamations of the Presidents, for the Government does not own them. I have had the assistance of quite a large number of gentlemen in this way, some presidents of colleges, and I have been expending this fraction, not in selling them, but simply presenting them as a matter of compliment. I have delivered them to gentlemen who have assisted me in a literary way in making this compilation. I have not sold a copy of them, and do not know that I ever shall.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Will the gentleman answer me how many clerks, and from what Departments, he had detailed to assist in this work?

Mr. RICHARDSON. There has been no detail from any Department at all. I will refer to the matter the gentleman referred to, which is in the resolution about typewriting, a resolution passed early in the Fifty-fourth Congress.

Mr. CONNOLLY. No, sir; but I ask about the clerks detailed from the State Department and some other Departments to assist you in this work—to do the work?

Mr. RICHARDSON. There has not been one detailed from any Department nor any bureau of the Government. The only clerical work that I have had any help in has been where I could not take the books from the Departments and had to have copying done there. There were some in the library of the State Department and some in the Treasury Department where I was not allowed to withdraw the books or documents, and I would hire some one to go there and take a typewriter, if I could not get one in the Department, and make copies of these official documents, in order that I might have them as nearly reliable and official as I could get them. I have used the money which that resolution provided—about \$600 or \$700—in making compensation for that.

Mr. BROWN. Will the gentleman yield to me for another question?

Mr. RICHARDSON. Certainly.

Mr. BROWN. You say, and no doubt correctly, that a Government publication can not be copyrighted.

Mr. RICHARDSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. BROWN. Very good. If these plates, or copies thereof, are owned by any individual member of this House, or out of it, may he not then copyright the work as his private work?

Mr. RICHARDSON. He can not copyright the messages. I want to say to my friend if he will get Drane on Copyrights, he will find that there is a decision of a very high court in this country, and it refers to a court in England also, that a Government publication may be copyrighted, as suggested by the gentleman from Texas, where a person puts into it certain original matter of his own. He may also copyright the work as to its form, style, etc. If he makes headnotes or footnotes or an index, he may copyright it, but possibly not against the Government. The Government can print this compilation, if it desires to do so, ad libitum.

Mr. BROWN. Will you answer this?

Mr. RICHARDSON. Certainly.

Mr. BROWN. Then, suppose that these plates become your private property. You can copyright the work and have all the rights under the copyright law to the exclusion of the balance of the world?

Mr. RICHARDSON. No; not as against the Government; and I have never sought it. I might seek it as to other persons.

Mr. EVANS. Now, have not you cut yourself off entirely from the right to copyright any edition of this work by dedicating it to the public?

Mr. RICHARDSON. Possibly that may be so. I do not know how that is.

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. I hope the gentleman will give a definite answer to my question.

Mr. RICHARDSON. I will. What is the question?

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. Even if you put any amount of work of any kind whatever into the preparation and compilation of these messages and other public papers, and reported that work to Congress and it became a public document, of course that part of the work could not be copyrighted; but on anything that you as a private individual may put into the work after receiving these plates you may be entitled to a copyright. You may copyright the plates including that new matter, but you can not copyright the work unless new matter is added in addition to what was reported to Congress. Is that a correct statement?

Mr. RICHARDSON. I am not sure but the gentleman is correct about that. I can copyright the compilation as to its form and style; etc., as shown by the authority I quoted above.

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. But I want to know whether I am correct or not?

Mr. RICHARDSON. Well, to answer the gentleman positively would be undertaking to give a legal opinion, and I do not think I ought to undertake to do that on this subject.

Mr. WALKER of Massachusetts. Well, I simply want to make the matter clear, because I want to vote you these plates.

[Here the hammer fell.]

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Chairman, I ask permission to conclude my statement.

There was no objection.

Mr. RICHARDSON. I do not want any copyright as against the Government. I do not ask for it, and I would not have it. The Government has a right to print this book ad libitum, and I have no desire and no disposition, and have never had any disposition, to try to prevent the Government from printing it.

One word more on another point, and then I will yield the floor. I want to add a word as to why it will really be a matter of economy to give me these plates. There is a demand at every session, and it will probably be so as long as Congress lasts, for copies of this work, and Congress will be called upon to print it and to reprint it at each succeeding session. There are a great many persons in the country who would like to be able to buy the work without having to appeal to members of Congress for it.

If I get these plates, I am frank to say that it is my intention to get some printing establishment to print the work and give me a royalty. I do not know just what can be done. If anybody wants to buy the work, I want him to be able to go to that book concern and buy it. If that is done, it will relieve the great pressure that would otherwise be brought to bear upon Congress to reprint the book at probably every succeeding session. If the plan does not succeed, then the book concern that prints the books will be out the amount of money that it costs to do the work, and the Government will not be hurt. If Congress sees fit to print other editions of the work from the plates in the office any number of times, it can do so, and nobody can restrain it, and nobody will attempt to restrain it.

Mr. NORTHWAY. I understand the gentleman to say that the only compensation he asks is these plates, and that he has no expectation of a copyright in any manner or form.

Mr. RICHARDSON. No; I do not say that I should not seek a copyright as against other persons who might undertake to reproduce my work. I shall do it.

Mr. NORTHWAY. I do not mean a copyright as against other persons, but as against the Government.

Mr. RICHARDSON. I state absolutely, unconditionally, and unequivocally that, as against the Government, I do not want to have any copyright or exclusive right. I want Congress to have the right to reprint this work from time to time, under all conditions and under all circumstances, and the gentleman will find this statement in the RECORD in the morning, for I will not edit it out.

Mr. CANNON. A single word, Mr. Chairman, and then I shall ask for a vote. This is the last item in the bill. As to the cost of these duplicate plates, I caused inquiry to be made, thinking that possibly some inquiry might be made in the House. The estimate of the Public Printer is \$3,600 for the duplicate plates. Now, so far as I am concerned, I am content that the Senate amendment should be concurred in. As to the matter of compensation to the gentleman from Tennessee, I suppose it would be the sense of the House, or of a future Congress, to make him apt compensation for work that he has done, perhaps not strictly pertaining to his duties as a member of this body, work which the Government has utilized.

But that can come up at the proper time. I make this statement as to the cost of the plates now, for the reason that if in the future there should be any question of compensation for this work, the gentleman from Tennessee would no doubt be quite willing that it should be known what these plates did cost, and I have no doubt that they will be worth to him fully the amount they cost the Government. I ask for a vote.

The amendment of the Senate was concurred in.

Mr. CANNON. Now, Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee rise and report the bill to the House with the amendments.

The motion was agreed to.

The committee accordingly rose; and the Speaker having resumed the chair, Mr. PAYNE reported that the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, having had under consideration the Senate amendments to the sundry civil appropriation bill, had directed him to recommend concurrence in amendments numbered 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 23, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 38, 39, 40, 41, and 42; to recommend that amendment numbered 24 be concurred in with an amendment, and that amendments numbered 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 13, 16, 19, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 35, 36, and 37 be non-concurred in.

Mr. CANNON. I ask unanimous consent that these amendments may be voted upon together, without being read.

There was no objection.

Mr. SAYERS. I wish to call attention to amendment 13, on page 55 of the bill, which yesterday, upon my motion, the House non-concurred in. I have this afternoon seen the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and; from the conversation I have had with him, I am quite sure the committee of conference would concur in that amendment. I ask that the amendment be reserved for a separate vote, in order that it may be concurred in.

The question being taken, the amendments reported from the Committee of the Whole (excepting amendment numbered 13) were respectively concurred in or non-concurred in, as recommended, amendment numbered 24 being concurred in with an amendment.

Mr. SAYERS. I now move that amendment numbered 13 be concurred in.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. CANNON. I move to reconsider the various votes upon these amendments, and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The latter motion was agreed to.

Mr. CANNON. I now move that the House request a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses. The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER announced the appointment of Mr. CANNON, Mr. WILLIAM A. STONE, and Mr. SAYERS as conferees on the part of the House.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted as follows:

To Mr. GRIFFIN, indefinitely, on account of important business.

To Mr. CRUMP, indefinitely, on account of important business.

Mr. CANNON. I move that the House now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; and accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 30 minutes p. m.) the Speaker declared the House adjourned, in pursuance of its previous order, until Thursday next, at 12 o'clock noon.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED.

Under clause 1 of Rule XXII, private bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. BLAND: A bill (H. R. 3170) to amend the record of Company I, Twelfth Regiment Missouri Volunteer Cavalry, by including the name of John H. Thruston therein, with the date of

his enlistment and date of his discharge—to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. CARMACK: A bill (H. R. 3171) for the relief of W. I. Smith and D. M. Wisdom—to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. HAY: A bill (H. R. 3172) for the relief of Mrs. Elizabeth R. Strother—to the Committee on Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3173) to pension Phillip Eberly—to the Committee on Pensions.

By Mr. KERR: A bill (H. R. 3174) to remove the charge of desertion from the military record of George W. Stelts—to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3175) granting an honorable discharge to Wilson S. Lafferty—to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3176) granting a pension to Henry W. Schroder—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3177) granting a pension to Daniel Garber—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3178) granting a pension to Lydia Sampson—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3179) granting a pension to Sarah M. Kingsley—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3180) granting an increase of pension to Rowland J. Welsh—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3181) granting a pension to Henry B. Magill—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3182) to pension Oscar Dunham—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3183) granting an increase of pension to Andrew B. Keith—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3184) granting an increase of pension to James H. Blakeman—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3185) granting a pension to Lovezila L. Patterson—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3186) granting an increase of pension to William J. Holway—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3187) granting an increase of pension to Friendly Lewis—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3188) granting a pension to Wilson S. Lewis—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3189) granting an increase of pension to James McCoy—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3190) granting an honorable discharge to John H. Smith—to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3191) removing the charge of desertion from William L. Peoples—to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3192) to remove the charge of desertion against William Thomas—to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3193) granting an honorable discharge to Henry P. Cassel—to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3194) to correct the military record of Collin P. Leiter—to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3195) to correct the military record of George Schell—to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3196) granting a pension to Eliza Stofer—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3197) granting a pension to Charles W. Benedict—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3198) granting a pension to Richard M. Johnson—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3199) granting a pension to Alfred Vansickles—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3200) to pension Levi Benedict—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3201) granting a pension to Matilda Zimmerman—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3202) to remove the charge of desertion from John Ryan—to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3203) granting a pension to Amelia B. Geddes—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3204) granting a pension to Sarah Gregory—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3205) granting an increase of pension to J. B. Lightcap—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3206) granting a pension to Richard A. St. Clair—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3207) to reimburse Aden Benedict for money paid by him to the United States as commutation for draft—to the Committee on War Claims.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3208) for the relief of Jacob Walker, son and assignee of Thornton Ralls—to the Committee on War Claims.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3209) granting a pension to Maggie Donovan—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3210) to pension Martin Watkins—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Also, a bill (H. R. 3211) to pension John Flynn—to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

By Mr. KETCHAM: A bill (H. R. 3212) granting an increase