

COMMISSIONS OF ARMY OFFICERS—VETO MESSAGE.

The following message was received from the President of the United States, by Mr. Latta, his secretary :

*To the Senate:*

I herewith return, without approval, Senate bill No. 653, entitled "An act to authorize commissions to issue in the cases of officers of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps and of the Revenue-Cutter Service retired with increased rank," for the reasons contained in the accompanying letter of the Secretary of the Navy and memorandum of the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation. It seems to me that the showing made by these documents warrants the assertion that the proposed legislation would be certainly undesirable and possibly pernicious.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *January 28, 1909.*

The message was read.

The Senate proceeded, as the Constitution prescribes, to consider the bill S. 653, returned by the President of the United States to the Senate, in which it originated, with his objections; which bill is in the following words, viz :

[S. 653. Sixtieth Congress of the United States of America; at the second session, begun and held at the city of Washington on Monday, the 7th day of December, 1908.]

An act to authorize commissions to issue in the cases of officers of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps and of the Revenue-Cutter Service retired with increased rank.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That officers of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps and of the Revenue-Cutter Service on the retired list whose rank has been, or shall hereafter be, advanced by operation of or in accordance with*

law shall be entitled to and shall receive commissions in accordance with such advance rank.

J. G. CANNON,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

CHARLES W. FAIRBANKS,  
*Vice-President of the United States  
and President of the Senate.*

I certify that this act originated in the Senate.

CHARLES G. BENNETT,  
*Secretary.*

The Vice-President stated the question to be, Shall the bill pass, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding?

When,

On motion by Mr. Warren,

*Ordered,* That the bill and message be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and printed.