

BY TELEGRAPH.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 28.—Some weeks ago proposals were offered for the removal of the coffer-dam of the dry dock at Mare Island, California. The lowest bid for the work was \$39,750. It was rejected on account of the exorbitant price and the matter was readvertised. The Navy Department has been informed by telegraph that the lowest bid under the new proposals was \$15,000.

Speaker Carlisle is about half through with his committee. He has skeletonized the list and has most of his chairmanships settled and is fitting the members in their places. The committee he is having the most difficulty about are the foreign affairs, labor and coinage, weights and measures.

The *Star* says: It is settled that Bland is to hold the chairmanship of the coinage, weights and measures, but the composition of the committee is giving the Speaker much worry. A pressure is being brought to bear by Bland and other silver men to have none but advocates of the silver dollar placed upon it, while on the other hand, a great influence is exerted to have it constructed in harmony with the administration. In this way the Speaker is subjected to a cross fire that is very harassing. The Secretary of the Navy, it is said, will have much to say about the composition of the naval committee. Hewitt, it is conceded, will be at the head, and a number of others whom Whitney favors, will be placed upon it.

A question has arisen as to the validity of Mr. Coon's acts as Acting Secretary of the Treasury for nine days after the death of Secretary Folger, under a former designation of the President to act during the absence of the Secretary. It is stated at the First Comptroller's office that such action might affect Coons individually were a question of salary involved, yet this action as to third parties could not but be valid, and therefore his official acts cannot be questioned. This decision is held under a decision of the Supreme Court and of the former Attorney General.

Fourteen hundred poor children today enjoyed the hospitality of the charity originally known as the Children's Christmas Club, of which Mollie Vilas, daughter of the Postmaster-General, is President, and Nellie Arthur, daughter of the ex-President is one of the vice-presidents, and which every year furnishes a Christmas dinner and gifts to the children of the poor of this city. Each of the 1,400 children was given an excellent dinner, a box of candy and a Christmas card. The tables were waited upon by the daughters of the most prominent citizens, and Mollie Vilas and Nellie Arthur personally supervised the giving out of the presents. The President and Miss Cleveland, and many others well known in society, attended the entertainment.

The First Comptroller of the Treasury has approved the accounts of the United States Fish Commission for the last fiscal year without alteration or modification. These accounts were stopped by the First Auditor for examination, and had been allowed only after the most careful scrutiny of the manner and authority by which Professor Baird expended the money appropriated for the work of which he had charge.

It is said at the White House that there is no truth in, nor any foundation for, the story published in the *Pittsburgh Penny Press* that a number of detectives are coming to Washington to look after the personal safety of the President.

St. Louis, 28.—The following is furnished by a Brownsville, Texas, correspondent of the *Globe-Democrat*:

Under to-day's date advices from Rome, Texas, say that a force estimated at from 100 to 150 men are congregated at Juan Maldonado's ranch, four miles from Rome, arming and preparing for a raid on Mier, Mexico, which is about seven miles distant from the ranch. They are partisans of one of the defeated candidates for Mayor in the recent election at Mier, and on raising a riot were driven out by the Federal troops. The rioters retreated across the Rio Grande, and fired on the troops from the American bank. It is not known whether the United States authorities have taken any steps toward breaking up the expedition.

Another correspondent, writing from Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, says: General Gomez, commander-in-chief of this division of the Mexican army, arrived here last night, and this morning issued an order commanding the fourth battalion of cavalry to start at once for Mier. Although the reason for this movement is not understood, it is thought the troops have been ordered there to preserve the peace at the time of the inauguration of the newly elected officials on January 1st. A sufficient number of troops have been retained to perform similar duty here. There is no probability of any trouble here, though hopes are entertained by the Gonzales faction that the election will be annulled by the government.

A special dispatch to the *Globe-Democrat*, from Saltillo, Mexico, says: Preparations are now going on in this State (Cohahuila) for a gubernatorial election which is to take place next February. The candidates are the same as were before the people last November—M. Garza Galon and Ramon Falcon—at which time the result

was set aside by the Federal Government.

The second battalion of cavalry, 300 strong, has been ordered to Piedras Negras, the extreme northern boundary of the State, to preserve order and it is supposed, the freedom of the ballot box. All the towns of the State of any importance are being garrisoned with troops. Notwithstanding all these precautions, opinions are expressed by prominent politicians that all will come to naught and that the military governor will be retained.

Dubuque, 28.—A sensational case of vitriol throwing occurred here tonight. A few minutes before 10 o'clock Frank Woods, an engineer on the Illinois Central Railroad, was walking to the yard for the purpose of taking out the freight train. At the lower end of the main street two women stepped out of a dark recess, and one of them threw a can of vitriol upon him. It struck Woods in the face and it is feared the sight of both eyes will be entirely lost. His cries brought assistance. The women escaped in the dark. He was taken to his residence, where he is now suffering terrible agony. The women have not been arrested. It is believed that one of them is Kate Welsh, who a short time since sued Woods for bastardy. The suit is still pending. Since it was instituted Woods has married another young lady.

SAN FRANCISCO, 28.—A Tucson, Arizona, special says: The proclamation of Gov. Zuleck, of the 23d, warning the people of Arizona to desist from attempting retaliatory measures against the Indians on the San Carlos reservations for depredations committed by the hostile Indians, has created surprise and indignation among the people of the Territory generally. The entire Arizona press, irrespective of party, unite in condemning the act as unwarranted by the facts and entirely uncalled for. Meetings have been called to give an expression of feeling in the matter.

St. Johns, N. B., 28.—A dispatch from Flagg's Cove, Grand Manan, gives particulars of the disasters resulting from Saturday's storm. The schooners *Zebra*, *Killam* and *Adele Hartwell*, were total wrecks. On the Centerville shore the schooner *A. T. Franklin* is a total wreck. At Ingalls Point the schooner *Breeze* of Portland drifted out with one man on board, leaving her anchors on Brown's Point. It is supposed she sank in the bay. The schooner *Minnie* is a total wreck on Brown's Point. It is reported that the schooner broke away from Loy Island. She is said to have had a crew of six men. A hulk, supposed to be a bark, can be seen on the bar inside of Big Duck Island. The crew are probably all lost. Many other vessels went ashore or were otherwise more or less damaged. Advices from numerous points along the New England coast report heavy winds and high tides and the stranding and wrecking of many small coasting vessels, but so far as reported no loss of life.

MOBILE, 28.—At Gainestown, Clark County, Alabama, yesterday, Alexander Reid, a negro who brutally murdered Miss Carrie Boyer, at that place, on the 18th, was chained to a tree at the spot where the crime was committed and slowly burned to death by a crowd of indignant whites and blacks.

OMAHA, Neb., 29.—A special train over the Chicago and Northwestern arrived from the east here to-night at 11:30 with 350 cigar makers from New York and points along the line bound for San Francisco. The delegation is to take the places of Chinamen in the Chinese quarter in San Francisco. A. Wolf, of San Francisco, representing the International Cigar Makers' Union, is in charge of the party. Six hundred Knights of Labor and other local organizations received the visitors at the depot with a brass band. Fifty cigar makers from Omaha have joined the party which will be swelled to 500 before reaching San Francisco. The terms on which the men go are to work for one year at wages prevailing on the coast for the purpose of supplanting the Mongolians. The movement is looked upon as a great victory for the International Union. There are some fears of trouble from opposition by Chinamen, as the factories are in the very heart of the most dangerous Chinese settlement there.

EL PASO, Texas, 20.—It became known yesterday that a bold attempt was made on the 23rd inst. to blow up the bridge of the Southern Pacific Railroad across the Rio Grande river, several miles above the city. Dynamite was placed on the track and the bridge bolts were loosened. A dozen men speaking English seized the bridge tender about midnight bound and blindfolded him and then marched him to a cabin. The intention of the men was to blow up passenger train No. 20 from the bridge and then plunder the dying passengers on the rocks below. The train, however, was several hours late and as daylight appeared the robbers fled.

NEW YORK, 29.—The following is the visible supply of grain, compiled by the New York Produce Exchange: Wheat, 58,431,813 bushels; corn, 8,320,695 bushels.

VINCENNES, Ind., 29.—John B. Bunch, a prosperous young farmer near Shoales, Martin County, disappeared mysteriously about five years ago and no trace of his whereabouts was ever found. The matter was completely forgotten until Sunday, when the superintendent of Martin County poor house was sent for by one of the inmates Mrs. Archer, who informed him that Bunch was murdered by her husband,

his brothers Thomas and Martin, and John Lynch and George Colt. She said Archer's desperate lot had engaged in horse stealing and other lawless acts; that they had frequently endeavored to induce Bunch to join them, but in vain, and they finally determined to get rid of him as a dangerous man. One day her husband, John B. Archer, inveigled Bunch down to the banks of Lost River and murdered him and then threw him in the river. When the police dragged the river the Archers got scared and took out the body and put it in the boiler of an engine of an old portable saw mill and boiled it for two days and nights. They then took out the bones and placed them in the grave beneath the coffin. Here the body of Bunch was allowed to rest but a few days when it was again taken up and placed somewhere else. Mrs. Archer not knowing where. Her confession as made before the prosecuting attorney implicated all the above named men, and warrants were made out for their arrest. Sheriff Podgett arrived yesterday, with a deputy proceeded to the farm five miles south where Archer was working making rails. Podgett showed him the warrant when Archer declared he would not go. He went to the house and got a gun and ordered the officers off the premises, and a man and woman at the house with Archer with their guns frightened the officers away. Sheriff Podgett has now taken eleven men and proposes to have Archer and his companions dead or alive. Mrs. Archer says her husband deserted her shortly after the murder, and poverty drove her to the poorhouse. The affair has created a sensation.

WASHINGTON, 29.—The Secretary of the Treasury to-day received a telegram from Captain Hooper of the revenue steamer *Rush*, at San Francisco, stating that after consultation with Captain Healy of the *Cornin* he had decided to undertake the search for the missing whaler, *Amethyst*. He also inquired if the cruise should be limited to the Aleutian Islands, or whether he should push northward following the ice pack as it broke up in the spring. Secretary Manning replied as follows: "Take the necessary supplies and proceed at once. Officers have been directed to report to you for duty immediately. Employ a surgeon and use your judgment as to the northern limit of the cruise." It is believed at the Department that the *Rush* will be able to sail from San Francisco for Behring Sea on Thursday next.

CALLED BONDS.

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued a call for \$10,000,000 of three per cent bonds, the principal and accrued interest of which will be paid February 1st, 1886, and the interest thereon will cease on that day. The following is a description of the bonds called: Three per cent bonds issued under the act of Congress approved July 12th, 1882, and numbered as follows: \$50, original number 299 to original number 353, both inclusive, and original number 1,314 to original number 1,367, both inclusive; \$100, original number 2,166 to 2,206, both inclusive, and original number 9,564 to 9,863, both inclusive.

\$500, original number 1076 to original number 1090, both inclusive, and original number 4046 to original number 4200, both inclusive. \$1,000, original number 9,787 to original number 10,012, both inclusive, and original number 20,311 to original number 23,587, both inclusive. \$10,000, original number 17,401 to original number 18,364, both inclusive. Total, \$10,000,000.

The bonds described above are either bonds of the "original issue, which have but one serial number at each end," substitute bonds which may be distinguished by the double set of numbers which are marked plainly "original" numbers and "substitute" numbers. All of the bonds of this loan will be called by the original numbers only. The three months' interest due February 1st, 1885, on the above described bonds will not be paid by checks forwarded to the holders of the bonds, but will be paid with the principal to the holders at the time of presentation. Many of the bonds originally included in the above number have been transferred or exchanged into other denominations on "waiver," the original numbers being cancelled and leaving outstanding the apparent amount above stated. The provision of law governing the order on which the bonds shall be called in is as follows: The last of the said bonds originally issued under this act and their substitutes shall first be called in, and this order of payment shall be followed until it shall have been paid. The bonds forwarded for redemption should be addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, Division of Loans, etc., Washington, D. C., and all the bonds called by this circular should be assigned to the Secretary of the Treasury for redemption. The assignments must be dated and properly acknowledged as prescribed in the note printed on the back of each bond. Where checks in payment are desired in favor of any one but the payee, the bonds should be assigned to the "Secretary of the Treasury for redemption, for account of (here insert the name of the person or persons to whose order the check should be paid.)"

LAW CASES.

In view of the large number of defective, irregular and insufficient proofs presented in the public land cases, Commissioner Sparks of the General Land Office, has issued a circular to Registers and Receivers of land offices

in which he directs that proofs must in all cases be made to the satisfaction of Registers and Receivers, and that the cross-examination should be directed to the verification of material facts alleged in the case, and especially to the actual facts of residence, and whether the entry is made or sought to be perfected for the claimant's own use and occupation, or for the use and occupation, or for the use and benefit of others. The ready-made proofs presented merely as a *pro forma* acknowledgment without verification, cross-examination or evidence of identity, will not, it is stated, be considered such proofs as are required by law. The officers taking the affidavits and testimony are required to call the attention of parties and witnesses to the laws respecting false swearing and the penalties therefor, and inform them of the purpose of the government to hold all persons to a strict account for any statements made by them.

PENSION LAWS.

The pension bureau is in receipt of thousands of letters from all parts of the country indicating the existence of the widespread but erroneous impression that the recent decision of the Supreme Court in the case of Mrs. Hattie Burnett vs. the United States would bring about an almost total change in the rates of pensions allowed to the widows of soldiers of the late war.

The decision which was rendered by Justice Harlan, on the contrary, sustains the practice of the pension office. Mrs. Burnett's husband, Gen. Ward H. Burnett, was allowed a pension of \$72 per month by a special act of Congress on account of his totally helpless condition, due to wounds received during the Mexican war. His widow was allowed a pension of \$50 in accordance with the provisions of the general law. She, however, appealed to the Court of Claims, claiming the same amount per month that her husband had received. That Court in its decision used this language: "The widow becomes entitled to a pension not necessarily at the rate her husband was allowed, but at a rate he would have been entitled to if his claims were founded upon what in the pension law is technically called 'total disability.'" The degree of disability by which his pension was rated makes no difference with the widow's right. After death, all degrees of disability are considered by law as one and the same, to-wit: 'total disability,' and the rate of the pension given to that grade becomes the rate of the pension for widows. Pensions to living soldiers are granted according to their respective incapacity to perform manual labor. When the disability is total, \$30 a month is given as an equivalent. A pension of \$30 a month—the supposed equivalent for 'total disability'—is granted the widow." The decision of the United States Supreme Court, which has been so much misunderstood, simply, as before stated, affirms the judgment of the Court of Claims, and the long established practice of the pension bureau has thereby received the sanction of the highest tribunal in the land.

About a month ago John T. Morton of Arkansas, was appointed through the Civil Service Commission to a thousand dollar position in the Post-office Department. Nothing was known of him here except that he was a school teacher and the result of his examination had been entirely satisfactory, and when this morning a colored man presented himself everybody was surprised. He is the first colored man appointed to a clerkship in that office.

CABINET MEETING.

All the members of the Cabinet were present at the regular meeting to-day except Secretary Lamar, who is at his home in Mississippi. The session was devoted to the consideration of the financial condition of the country and the discussion of the probabilities of the action of Congress upon the silver question.

The Treasury Department bought no silver bullion to-day, the prices asked being regarded as too high.

The following named fourth-class post-offices have been raised to the Presidential grade, to take effect Jan. 1, 1886. The salary of the postmasters is fixed at \$1,000 per annum; Los Gatos, California; Lake Linden, Michigan; Bolivar, Missouri; Orleans, Nebraska; Punxituanney, Pennsylvania; and Buffalo, Wyoming.

APACHE TROUBLES.

Senator Manderson, Congressman Springer and Laird called upon the Secretary of War this morning to discuss with him the situation in Southern New Mexico in regard to the Apache troubles. They represented to him the defenseless condition of the people, and made known their purpose to introduce a bill soon after the recess providing for the raising of a body of troops for the special purpose of hunting, and if necessary exterminating the murderous bands which have been making that region a desert. They propose that these troops shall consist exclusively of frontiersmen, and be placed under the command of army officers. They shall be temporarily enlisted for this special service, equipped mounted and provided for in such a way as to be able to follow and fight the savages in their fastnesses.

During the progress of the conversation, which lasted an hour, allusion was made to General Crook's record. Springer read to the Secretary a letter he had received from Judge Barnes of the First Judicial District of Arizona, discussing the situation and setting

forth the views of intelligent men of the locality as to the best remedy. This in brief was for the government to raise a battalion of frontiersmen to be lightly equipped, whose duty it should be to patrol the region in small parties, especially keeping in view the watering places. It was possible for the Indians to move more rapidly than the white troops could by riding their ponies until they dropped from exhaustion and then stealing others, but they must reach water from time to time or perish themselves. Judge Barnes also proposed the arming and enlistment of a body of Papago Indians, a friendly, industrious race, who are as much annoyed by renegade Apaches as are the whites. The Secretary said, in reference to the plan, that the army was already doing much of the service proposed. Gen. Sheridan had been sent out to the scene of the disturbance, and Gen. Crook, in whom they all had confidence, was in command. If these could not subdue the hostiles, no one could. Springer said he did not know Gen. Crook, and had nothing whatever against him, but judging him merely by results, he was a failure. The renegades did not number more than 200 men. Crook, with 3,000 or 4,000 men at his command, had been hunting them for years and had not succeeded in putting a stop to the outrages. Senator Manderson came to Gen. Crook's defence, attributing to his skill and ability the pacification of the Indians of Nebraska. The bill referred to will be introduced by Congressman Laird, of Nebraska.

KITANNING, Pa., 29.—At the gas well being drilled for the Kitanning Iron Co., three miles from Kitanning, an explosion occurred about noon today, in which ten men were burned. The cause of the explosion is yet unknown. Detective Stevenson, who was but a few rods off, extinguished the fire under the boiler, which was but 15 feet away from the derrick, immediately after the explosion. He thinks the gas ignited from that, while others say it caught from a spark thrown from a piece of iron which was being sledged. The owners were at the well testing it, and the pressure was so strong that it forced off a gauge. A sheet of flame enveloped everything in the vicinity and burned the derrick and rigging.

WILKESBARRE, 29.—There appeared to be no change to-day in the situation at No. 1 stope in Nanticoke. The work of clearing up goes on slowly but steadily. George and Joseph Kivler, brothers of the three Kivlers who are among the victims, explored the mine as thoroughly as possible this afternoon. They came to the conclusion that it was impossible that the entombed men could be still alive and that beyond any further doubt they had been overwhelmed by the flood of sand which it was found had filled every portion of the workings.

CHICAGO, 29.—The consignors of the missing schooner *Orphan Boy*, have given up all hope of her safety. A letter was received this morning by them from a lake captain, who saw the ill-fated craft on Friday, Dec. 4th, about 5 p.m., abreast of Beacon Island. In the opinion of the firm, she there foundered in a terrific gale of that night, or struck a reef in attempting to make a southern passage, and went to pieces. There were eight men on board, who doubtless went down with her.

MOBILE, Ala., 29.—Early this morning the Gulf City Oil Mills' boiler exploded with terrific force, tearing down the boiler house and part of the seed sheds, burying four colored laborers in the debris. Three were taken out dead, the other is missing. Three other negroes were seriously scalded, and two others slightly hurt. Stanton, the foreman of the mill, was badly injured internally.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, 29.—The arbitration committee appointed to settle the question of mining in the Hocking Valley, and who could not agree, today submitted their evidence and arguments to Judge Allen G. Thurman, whose decision is to be final. It is expected that he will decide the case by the latter part of the week.

OMAHA, 29.—The official announcement of the appointment of P. P. Shelby as assistant traffic manager of the Union Pacific, with headquarters at Salt Lake, was made to-day. Shelby has been the general freight agent.

CHESTER, Pa., 29.—An axle of the freight locomotive on the Chester Creek Railroad broke at Mt. Alverns this morning, and derailed the entire train, throwing it down a steep embankment. James Rambo, engineer, of Philadelphia, was crushed to death beneath the tender. George Mott, a brakeman of Chester, was so badly injured that he cannot recover. A. O. Williams, a conductor of Chester, and Wm. McEwan a fireman of Philadelphia, were also severely injured. The track was torn up for fifty yards. The cars were piled high upon each other and the fields were strewn with merchandise.

LOUISVILLE, 29.—A special to the *Courier-Journal* says: James Sanders with his wife and three children were crossing the Kentucky River in a skiff last night near Nicholasville, Kentucky. They missed the landing place and the skiff struck a snag and upset. Sanders got ashore, but it was so very dark he was unable to render any aid to his wife and three little children, who were all drowned.

NEW YORK, 29.—Wm. H. Vanderbilt's will was admitted to probate today by the Surrogate. All the members of the family waived the service of citations and consented that the will should be admitted to probate at once. With this consent counsel ap-