

BY TELEGRAPH.

AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 7.—At to-day's cabinet meeting, Secretary McCrary read a report from an engineer officer in charge of the Mississippi jetty works, showing to what depth and width the channel required by law had not been maintained during a portion of last quarter. The matter was referred to Attorney General Devens, who will decide whether Captain Eads is entitled to the money claimed for that quarter.

The commissioner of pensions to-day read a letter from an aged female pensioner which, omitting the name, reads as follows:

DEAR SIR—I wish to know if Mr. — has any right to pay. He says he got the arrears of pensions bill through Congress. I thought it took two thirds of the members to pass a law. He wrote to me before I got my check to know how much I would give. I told the man that I filed my papers to put down \$25. I would like to know if he is trying to swindle me, an old woman 70 years of age, or shall I give it to him. I enclose the papers he sent me.

The "papers" referred to are copies of printed circulars which have been sent to claimants throughout the country by certain persons in Washington with the purpose of duping the ignorant by pretensions to influence, or with pleas of requital for alleged services. Commissioner Bentley, with a view to further exposing these disreputable schemes, has furnished for publication his reply to the above letter. He writes:

Dear Madame: In answer to your letter of the 3d inst., you are informed that neither Mr. — nor any other person has any right to demand pay of you for any efforts they may have put forth to secure the passage of a law granting arrears. From the papers which you enclose, and which with your consent I will retain, it appears that Mr. — is trying to levy a tax for his private use upon your credulity and generosity.

Secretary Schurz and Commissioner Hayt to-day gave an audience to a delegation of Indians, representing certain dissatisfied members of the Sacs and Foxes, and an Iowa tribe, who desire authority to remove to the Indian Territory from their present reservation, which comprises 24,000 acres in Northern Kansas and Southern Nebraska. The Sacs and Foxes, occupying one-third of this area, number altogether about 100 souls, and the Iowas have possession of the remaining 16,000 acres. It was developed in to-day's conference that a large proportion of these Indians cultivate the soil, own houses and raise crops of various kinds, but the discontented speakers informed the Secretary that they believed the land in the Indian Territory is better; that the whites were now too thick in the vicinity of their present reservation and that they wanted to go south in order to get more breathing room.

Secretary Schurz, in reply, informed them that they have already ample space in which to breathe freely, that it would be foolish for them to abandon their homes and other improvements and that all they needed to become as prosperous as their neighbors was to imitate their industry, send their children to the agency school, build fences and cultivate the soil. Their request was therefore refused.

Commissioner Hayt has provided the whole party with tickets home, but informed them that the department would not defray any other expenses.

A general order has been issued by the Secretary of the Navy, announcing the death and recounting the services of Rear Admiral Reynolds, and in respect to his memory, ordering that on the day after the reception of the order, flags in navy yards and stations and on vessels in commission be displayed at half mast from sunrise to sunset, and that minute guns be fired at noon from navy yards and stations, flag ships and vessels acting singly.

CINCINNATI, 7.—The remains of Gen. Hooker lay in state in the Second Presbyterian Church all last night and this morning, in charge of Lieut. Buck and a squad of soldiers. The casket was not opened. The church around the chancel was appropriately decorated with flags. The casket rested upon a catafalque covered with

national stars over a blue field. A rich floral pillow from California was placed at the head. On a white ground in purple buds appeared the following:

"California Pioneers. We will meet over the Divide."

Also another floral design in tuberoses with the inscription:

"First Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers—Hooker's old brigade."

Gov. Brown and staff and the old guard of the Soldiers' Home, Dayton, arrived this morning, and will be assigned a place in the procession.

The procession was slow in getting under way, not reaching the church until after two o'clock. The column formed in the following order.

Detachment of police, grand marshal, Grand Army of the Republic, Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Associations, First and Second Kentucky Associations, Veteran Military Association, Society of ex-Army and Navy officers, First Regiment of Ohio National Guards, Covington Light Guards, Brown Guards, Soldiers' Home, Guard of Honor of United States troops, catafalque, pallbearers, family and friends, General Augur and staff, Governor Bishop and staff, common council, judges and officers of the United States Courts.

The flags on the government and city buildings were all at half mast and as the procession moved the fire bells tolled, and at Newport Barracks minute guns were fired.

At the church, which was densely packed, Chaplain Earnshaw delivered the oration, speaking extemporaneously but impressively, and with deep emotion. He said 300,000 men laid down their lives before the rebellion was put down. Others returned to their homes. Since their return, one after another ceased to live. When one of the heroes died every heart was touched. The hero of Nashville, Gen. Thomas, is dead; the leader of Gettysburg, General Meade, has gone, and to-day we pay the last rites to the heroic General Hooker. He stood untouched amid the missiles of treason, but now he lies low before us. He is not dead; his name will always live in the history of his country.

Rev. Thomas Lee, of Cincinnati Bethel, made a brief prayer and pronounced a benediction.

The corpse was then borne from the church on the shoulders of soldiers of the Thirteenth infantry, and was followed by the mourners and pallbearers.

The route of the procession led as far east as Walnut Street, then down to Fourth, thence by the nearest way to Spring Grove Cemetery. Crowds of people lined the streets, many of whom stood with uncovered heads as the body of the dead General passed. A gun carriage with a riderless horse followed behind. A number of furred and tattered battle flags, bound with crape and borne by an association of soldiers of the late war, gave a mournful interest to the procession. It was 5.30 o'clock when the cemetery was reached. Rev. Thos. Lee repeated the burial service, and the body was deposited in the Dexter mausoleum.

BALTIMORE, 7.—A shooting affray is reported at Leonardtown, Md., on the night of the election. There was a great deal of excitement in town, and a fight between the lower elements of the two parties was momentarily expected throughout the day. Nothing serious, however, took place until after dark, when the democrats surrounded the republican flag-pole and threatened to pull it down. It is said Mr. A. A. Lawrence, who had been elected county commissioner on the republican ticket, made his way into the crowd and warned them to keep off. A rush was made for the flag-pole, and in the scramble which followed the report of a pistol was heard, and Lawrence staggered and fell, pierced in the breast. It is not known who fired the shot. Many declare it could not have been else than accident and refuse to credit the wild rumors into which the affair has been shaped. Lawrence is very seriously hurt, but may recover. He is a native of Ohio, and settled in St. Mary's county immediately after the late war. He seems to have become popular as a citizen and a business man, and is highly respected by both democrats and republicans. He is a republican in politics and was elected to the State Senate; was a member of that body in 1876, and elected a member of the House of Delegates in 1878.

It is rumored to-day that John Denton, an employee of one of the tobacco warehouses of this city, was shot and seriously injured by a colored man in Prince Frederick, Maryland, on election day. Denton is a citizen of the county and went there to vote. The particulars of the affair are not known, efforts having been made to conceal it altogether.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., 7.—A terrible disaster occurred at the corner of Second and Main streets this afternoon. The extensive cracker and candy manufactory of Carle & Sons, occupying four three-story buildings, tumbled down and was completely consumed by fire. At the time the accident occurred, 107 persons, mostly boys and girls from 12 to 20 years of age, were at work in the factory, all of whom escaped alive except seven. The cause of the accident cannot be fully determined, but as an explosion occurred simultaneously with the fall of the walls, it is supposed to be a repetition of the accident in New York, last year—a starch explosion. As soon as the walls fell, the building took fire. As soon as the news of the accident had spread through the city, the parents and friends of those employed there flocked to the scene to learn the fate of their beloved. As soon as the firemen had subdued the flames, they set to work digging for the dead, and up to 10 p. m., had taken out three, Emma Kemper, Anna Becker and Charles Schublitz. Those still missing are supposed to be in the ruins and are Louis Hammel, Andy Mc Connell, George Kemper and Johnny Kemper. The buildings and contents were a total loss. Insured for \$23,000.

LANCASTER, Pa., 7.—During a heavy fog this morning a freight train on the Pennsylvania Railroad ran into another freight train near the Pennsylvania Rolling Mill, in this city, and two oil cars were wrecked. The escaping oil caught fire, and shortly afterwards one of the tanks exploded with terrific force, severely shaking all the buildings in the vicinity. The fire engines were of little service, the flames leaping up to the height of 30 feet, and for some hours the track was blocked east and west, with trains waiting for the fire to burn itself out.

ALTOONA, Pa., 7.—A freight train on the Pennsylvania road broke in two early this morning while coming down the mountain about eight miles west of Altoona. The detached portion of the train gained great speed, running down hill at the rate of a mile a minute, until at Kittanning Point, it overtook and ran into the first part. Twenty-four cars were completely wrecked and the freight scattered in all directions. James A. McDowell, brakeman, was instantly killed, and his body terribly mutilated. J. C. Cook, another brakeman, was seriously injured and is not expected to recover.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., 7.—The three rear cars of the special New York Express train, which left this city at 7.15 last evening going south, jumped the track when between New Hamburg and Low Point. One of them was thrown into the river and a number of passengers were injured, but none seriously. All the injured ones were put on board the train which left in about two hours after for New York.

NEW HAVEN, 7.—There have been found on Mary Stannard's right cheek, which is preserved at the Yale Medical School, seventeen indentations which correspond exactly with seventeen nails in the heel of Rev. Hayden's left brogan, which he wore on the day of Mary's murder. It is claimed by the State Attorney that Hayden put his heel on the girl's face when he cut her throat.

SAN FRANCISCO, 7.—A special from Fort Grant to the Tucson Daily Star says: Dispatches from Fort Bayard, New Mexico, announce the return there of Arizona troops and scouts. They had a fight by moonlight with Victoria's band of Apaches in Mexico, 60 miles below the line; 180 warriors were engaged. The Indians were defeated and driven from the field. Private Chochlers, of Company A, Sixth Cavalry, from Fort Grant, Arizona, and an Indian scout of Lieutenant Gatewood's company, of Fort Apache, were killed and another wounded. Major Morrow commanded the troops in the fight. The Arizona troops are en route to their posts, the hostile Indians having all been driven out of New Mexico. General Carr, in charge of all the

scouting parties and troops in the field in Southern Arizona, will return at once with his troops along the border to guard the Territory against the hostiles now in Mexico.

The bark Sea Breeze, the first of the whaling fleet, arrived this evening. On the night of September 2nd, when 50 miles south of Herald Island, 70 degrees north, saw a sail ahead which was supposed to be a brig. Next morning found it was a steamer. Both vessels were along the edge of a pack of ice westward, and loose ice from the eastward was settling toward them. To the northward the wind blew from the south with a strong southerly current. The Sea Breeze was hoisted to that day, fearing to go further north. Saw the steamer supposed to be the Jeanette all that day; she seemed to make little progress; but it was near the close of the night made by the pack and loose ice. The night fog set in, and it was thick all next day, the 4th, till 4 p. m., when it cleared, but the steamer was not in sight. The pack ice trended to the northeast from the latitude of Herald Island.

A few days after we came up and worked to the northward in the wake of the loose ice. Capt. Nye, of Mt. Wollaston, thinks he saw smoke in the offing 30 miles from Herald Island. The ice has been moving in the Arctic in large quantities all through the summer, and vessels have got no further north or east than Icy Cape.

NEW YORK, 8.—The indecision of the New York election materially increases the probability that Grant will enter the field for the next Presidential nomination. Some of his friends, who have been most opposed to this step, now think he will be made to believe it is essential to a continued republican supremacy in the nation, though if the republicans had carried New York by a handsome majority, he would have insisted on remaining in private life. It is thought neither Blaine nor Sherman will openly contest the nomination, but there are some strong leaders of the party who seem likely to organize an opposition such as may tend to make Grant hesitate still to enter the field. Their objects are not personal, but based on the conviction that Grant's nomination would develop elements of disharmony and consequent weakness in New York such as would have led to the overwhelming defeat of Cornell except for Kelly's ballot.

Ex-Senator Fenton and many other anti-Conkling leaders are sure to be disaffected and lukewarm. If Grant's nomination is to mean the renewal of Conkling's dictatorship, such disaffection would be amply sufficient to lose the State.

Tilden is not dismayed by Robinson's defeat, he still holds his grip on the democratic organization, and insists that he can carry New York both in the convention and the election. He will not give up the contest readily. He thinks there will be no bolt in the Presidential election.

Bayard's chances are considered improved by Robinson's defeat, because unbiased democrats are convinced that Tilden cannot cordially unite his party here, even if there should be no open bolt, while Bayard would. Besides, Bayard's pronounced views more nearly than those of any other democratic candidate, are acceptable to New York's financial and commercial interests.

WASHINGTON, 8.—Gen. Sherman, in forwarding the following report of Captain J. Scott Payne, of the Fifth Cavalry, to the Secretary of War, endorses it as follows: This modest and most admirable report was received after I had finished my annual report else I should have embraced it almost entire as a better description of the fight at Milk Creek on Sept. 29th last.

Capt. Payne says: Lieut. Cherry, adjutant of the command, accompanied by guide Rankin and a small party of soldiers, was in advance, and upon passing over some high ground intermediate between the road we had left and the trail, discovered the Indians in heavy force drawn up in line of battle, or more correctly speaking, lying in ambush along the high ridges which completely covered and commanded the road. With a quick and soldierly preception of the situation Lt. Cherry turned back and made signals for the command to retrace its steps. Just as the leading company (F, Fifth Cavalry) was descending a ridge into the valley beyond, Company E was immediately conducted to the side

of the hill on its left flank, while Company E, Third Cavalry, was halted on the high ground it occupied and both companies were at once dismounted and deployed by Maj. Thornburgh's orders as skirmishers, Company E, Third Cavalry, on the right along the crest of the ridge and Company F, Fifth Cavalry, as well up the side of the hill, which constantly ascending, stretched away indefinitely, as the nature of the ground would permit. Our line at this point resembled the letter V, the points towards the Indians, and that portion of it formed by Company F, Fifth Cavalry, projecting considerably beyond the point of junction and being deflected to the left so as to prevent the enemy from turning our flank. At this time several attempts were made by Major Thornburgh, in person, and by Lieut. Cherry, to communicate with the Indians; but efforts in that direction were met by a shot, and at once a hot fire was opened upon us, and the fight began all along our lines.

The Indians had displayed admirable skill in the selection of the ground upon which to give us battle. With sound judgment and a quick and thorough perception of the situation, Major Thornburgh determined to form a junction with Company D, Fifth Cavalry, which was protecting the wagon train, and with that end in view directed the companies engaged to fall back slowly.

The command retired as directed, in perfect order, and led the horses, being kept well protected between the skirmish lines of the two companies, while a heavy and effective fire did great execution among the savages and prevented an attempt on their part to break through our lines.

Failing in their efforts in front, the Indians endeavored to cut the command off from the train, which had, by Major Thornburgh's order, gone into the park on the right bank of Milk River, and to accomplish this purpose passed round our left flank beyond carbine range, and concentrated in force upon a knoll to the left and completely commanding our line of retreat. Major Thornburgh, upon discovering this new danger, directed me to charge the knoll with 20 men of my company, to sweep the Indians off, and then at once, without attempting to hold the hill, fall back upon the train and take measures for its protection. This duty being performed and a way opened for a return of herd horses, I repaired to the wagon train and at once took steps looking for its defense. Major Thornburgh doubtless started for the train shortly after giving me the order referred to, and was shot and instantly killed just after crossing the river and within 500 yards of the wagons. His gallantry was conspicuous from first to last, and grief for his death was general and profound.

In the meantime Captain Lawson, with E. Company, Third Cavalry, and Lieutenant Cherry, with a detachment from C. Company, 3d, and F. 5th, Cavalry gallantly held the Indians in check in front of gradually retiring, Lieutenant Cherry with his detachment covering the retreat. Upon reaching the train I found it parked on the right bank of Milk River, about 200 yards from the water, the wagons forming the north side of a corral, elliptical in shape, its long axis running east and west, to the south side exposed to a fierce fire from the Indians, who, massing in the ravines along the river, and upon the commanding heights, were making a determined effort to capture and destroy the train before it could be placed in a condition for defence.

The animals were crowded within the area indicated, and I at once directed some 20 or more of these wounded to be led out and shot along the open space referred to, thus making continuous our line of defence and offering cover for our sharpshooters.

I can find no suitable words in which to express my admiration for the officers and men of my command. Their conduct was beyond all praise; they were gallant under fire, patient during suspense, and confident through all. It is my greatest pride that I commanded them, and know that one more page in the glorious annals of the American soldier has been illustrated by their valor.

To-day's Washington Post (democratic organ) contains the following editorial paragraph, which seems to foreshadow changes