

[SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.]

By Telegraph.

GENERAL.

New York.—The *Herald* concludes that there is to be considerable activity in naval matters. An order has been issued for the *Minnehaha* to be ready for sea, and another for the fitting out rapidly of the *Silvata* and ten other vessels. The sudden transfer of stores and army supplies to the frigate *Albany*, with an order for that vessel to sail immediately for Cuba, with other important movements, indicate that Government is about to take a decisive course on Cuban independence.

Farragut, in his claim for prize money, sets forth that Porter, with the North fleet, bombarded the rebel position for seven days without doing any appreciable damage or incapacitating them from their defense, and that he did not capture any portion of the enemy's fleet. Porter puts in a paper stating that he was the first to suggest the attack, and that he worked eight days to get Farragut's fleet over the bar; also that the statements made by Farragut concerning him have no foundation in fact.

Chicago.—The Stock Exchange was formally opened last night with a banquet, speeches, etc. Hon. G. Chim, a gentleman who has recently come from San Francisco, made a speech of a congratulatory character. Telegrams were received from the President of the San Francisco Stock Board and the President of the Philadelphia Exchange.

New York.—A letter from Macon, Ga., says that evidences of returning prosperity in the South are especially noteworthy. Although the cotton crop was much less than was expected, planters have gathered a tolerable yield; but the price of cotton is less than they hoped to receive. The country is generally prosperous. Laborers are generally contented; and notwithstanding the recent Labor Convention, are contracting largely to work another year with the same employers. The laborers who made these engagements were well and fairly located and liberally compensated by their employers. The country is perfectly tranquil and there are remarkably few cases of crime occurring now of an aggravated character. Politics are seldom spoken or thought of. The prices of cotton fertilizers and the probabilities of the next crop are encouraging thought and discussion.

Many of the prominent Cubans of this city are preparing a memorial to Congress, praying for an early recognition of the independence of the struggling Republic. The memorial will be extensively circulated in a few days.

Washington.—The condition of the Treasury shows that there is a balance of gold on hand of one hundred and fourteen millions of dollars; the amount outstanding in gold certificates is thirty-two millions, leaving a balance of eighty-two millions, and leaving a balance of greenbacks on hand of eleven millions.

Louisville.—The General Freight Agent's Association adopted all the railroad rates to-day from St. Louis. First class, \$1.80; second class, \$1.45; third class, \$1.00; fourth class, eighty cents. From Chicago. First, \$1.75; second, \$1.35; third, ninety cents; fourth, sixty-five cents.

Washington.—Robert J. Walker died this morning, aged sixty-eight.

Baltimore.—The city government has passed a resolution to observe Friday as the day of the Peabody funeral.

In London there will be a closing of public offices, a tolling of bells and other appropriate marks of respect and regard paid to the memory of Mr. Peabody.

The remains of ex-Governor Pratt were taken to Annapolis to-day to be interred.

On the New York Central Railroad, three young Americans, from Boston, were arrested as robbers. Over \$15,000 were found in the possession of one of them, who is only nineteen years old; the others had two thousand each, all in greenbacks. The authorities are as yet undecided what to do in the matter.

San Francisco, 11th.—Arizona advises say the Indians near Prescott are committing depredations.

Governor Safford is visiting the northern part of the Territory. Rain has fallen throughout the Territory. Flour at Prescott was thirty-six dollars in gold, a barrel, butter two dollars a pound, eggs two dollars a dozen, and other necessities in proportion.

Boston.—The Mayor has directed the bells to be tolled half an hour to-mor-

row noon, and the flags on public buildings to be half-masted in recognition of the funeral of Geo. Peabody.

Washington.—General Sherman officially announces the death of General Wool, with an order for the usual marks of respect to his memory.

New York.—The funeral of General Wool takes place from St. Paul's Church on Saturday morning. He will be buried with military honors.

The *Evening Post* says the question whether deputy collector Blatchford is connected with the immense drawback frauds, recently brought to light in the New York Custom House, has been definitely settled by an investigation and examination of the papers, made at the Custom House this afternoon by Collector Grinnell and District Attorney Pierpont. The investigation demonstrated beyond doubt that an immense quantity of goods had been removed from bond upon fraudulent papers and that the Government has been defrauded of not less than eight hundred thousand dollars in the aggregate; the amount may reach a million. How deputy Blatchford is concerned, the Government officials don't at present feel justified in making public. The frauds were consummated in some cases by fraudulent papers, in others by changing the amounts on which the drawback was due. They were conducted in the boldest possible manner, it is therefore supposed that some one holding a responsible position was concerned in them. The drawbacks were sometimes obtained in sums of two or three hundred dollars for goods alleged to have been shipped on vessels that never left the port. The papers on which these claims were collected had been signed by Blatchford. It is claimed that Blatchford received ten per cent. on frauds amounting to a quarter of a million. These are only part of the frauds committed however. The District Attorney, Pierpont, is making a thorough investigation of the matter, and probably some important developments will be made in a few days.

The *Daily News* says an important meeting of the leading merchants and importers was held last evening for discussing the subject of a return to specie payments: it was the unanimous decision that the sooner Secretary Boutwell issues an order to receive greenbacks in payment for custom dues, the better. The amount of merchandise now in bond in this city is estimated at five hundred million dollars. It was stated at the meeting that a decision of the Supreme Court, declaring the unconstitutionality of the legal tender act, is certain.

New York.—The Board of Health has decided to prosecute all persons unlawfully engaged in fat melting and other offensive trades in the city. This movement will close more than a hundred establishments which have long been regarded as a nuisance.

The general missionary committee opened their new mission rooms at 805 Broadway, to-day; the anniversary of the society will be held on Sunday or Monday next.

The *Express* says that it is understood negotiations are pending between the Western Union Telegraph Company and that of the French Cable for a union of interests.

It is reported that one of the wires of the old cable has been so eaten by some small insect that it is very slow and uncertain in its operations, hence the prospect of a union of all the Atlantic Cables with the Western Union Company.

The soldiers' monument, in Fairmount Cemetery, Newark, N. J., was dedicated to-day, with imposing ceremonies.

Cleveland.—The war between the Erie and Atlantic and Great Western Railroads have been transferred to other points.

Gould, after failing in his negotiations with McHenry, left for the East, via Akron, while McHenry quietly departed for Akron with an intention of commencing legal proceedings; meanwhile Lane, Gould's attorney, has appeared unusually nervous, and excited; and on learning to-day that James Fisk Jr. and McHenry were in secret correspondence he was heard to use strong language about Fisk. He finally took the evening train for Akron.

Akron, Ohio.—McHenry was here to-day consulting two lawyers about railroad matters. He was in correspondence with Fisk, junr., with whom he seems on good terms.

It is rumored that important aid may be rendered to English stockholders by Fisk in the proposed suit against the Erie managers.

Further interest was excited this evening by the arrival of Lane, Gould's attorney, who will try to out-manuever

McHenry before the court by the defense he will attempt. The court is setting this evening.

Nashville.—The House has passed the third reading of the Senate bill, removing the disabilities of Judge Frazier, impeached by the last Radical Legislature, and tabled resolutions for proposing an amendment to the Federal Constitution to change the mode of electing the President.

Louisville.—The heirs of John Campbell, who was possessor, in 1783, of a hundred acres of land, which now embrace the commercial centre of Louisville, are about instituting a suit for the property, claiming that he was the rightful owner. The property is now held by a large number of persons. The land and improvements are valued at thirty millions of dollars.

The valuable estate of Blanton Duncan, which was seized for his participation in the rebellion, has been ordered to be released by the Attorney General of the United States.

Harrisburg.—A strong effort is being made by the friends of Dr. Schoop, who is under sentence of death for the murder of Miss Stenecke, at Carlisle, to induce the Governor to pardon him. The Governor ordered the papers etc., to be presented to the Attorney General, who has recently given an opinion adverse to the pardon.

Cincinnati.—A terrific explosion occurred at a large planing mill and sash factory, at Covington, to-day, completely demolishing the building, which was large and built of brick. The loss is about \$25,000. Fourteen men who were in the building at the time, escaped with slight bruises, except the engineer, who was instantly killed. The cause of the explosion is unknown.

The *Avonlanche*, Little Rock, Arkansas. special says that a soldier was killed at the arsenal yesterday, by Major Stoneberry, who caught him while attempting to escape from his house, which he had entered. General Smith has ordered an investigation.

Charleston.—The wholesale groceries of Klatt & Co., and J. N. M. Washteman, on East Bay street, were burned last night. A large establishment adjoining was also much injured. The estimated loss is \$60,000.

New York.—The United States steamer *Albany* sailed for St. Domingo on Wednesday evening, carrying three Commissioners who go to take formal possession of Samana Bay, as an American station.

Tortugas.—James Sheridan was killed on Thursday night by his sister, who broke his skull with a stove cover.

It is stated that Attorney General Hoar is about to accept a place on the Supreme Court bench.

Washington.—The Navy Department to-day received from Key West from the commander of the *Queen Sensor* and an officer of the United States steamer *Tuscarora* the particulars of the capture of the Cuban steamer *Lillian* by the English steam gunboat *Starling*, on the 17th of October, near Nassau. The *Lillian* went into Nassau on the 16th, being short of coal and having previously landed 150 men near that port, she attempted to coal, some miles out at sea, the next day; but the coal schooner was scared by the *Starling*, which fired into the *Lillian*. The *Lillian* returned to Nassau and was taken possession of by the English authorities. It is thought she sank some twelve hours after and now lies across a reef.

We learn these particulars from the crew of the *Lillian*, who were landed, twenty of whom were brought to Key West by an English schooner.

New York.—Five thousand people attended a meeting at the Cooper Institute last night, to hear Father McMahon speak on the subject of his recent imprisonment in Canada, on account of his alleged connection with the Fenians. Mayor Hall presided. Horace Greely spoke after Father McMahon, and impressed upon the audience the necessity of union among the Irish.

Washington.—The Erie Railroad case was concluded yesterday before Justice Swain, sitting in Chambers. Four of the principal railroads of Tennessee are parties to the case. One of them, running from Nashville to Johnsonville, was partly re-built by the General Government during the war. The Government claims about two million dollars indebtedness against the companies for the equipment of their roads, while the companies present a counter-claim of four millions for the use and damages of their property used by the Government, and for the non-payment of interest due the State of Tennessee, while the Government made use of the roads. The result is that a compromise was effected to-day by counsel, it being agreed

that the companies shall retain possession of the roads and run the same and pay the interest due on the Tennessee Railroad bonds. The surplus, after making these payments, is to be appropriated to liquidate other indebtedness to the General Government.

Cheyenne.—The Denver City Railroad is finished 43 miles from Cheyenne.

Troy.—Gen. Wools' funeral will take place to-morrow, Saturday; business generally will be suspended. Maj.-Gen. Carr has charge of the arrangements, and has ordered out two brigades; the Troy Citizens' Corps, the Albany Burgess Corps, and the civic societies will unite in the procession. A regiment from Governor's Island has been ordered here by Gen. Sherman. Gov. Hoffman, and Major-Generals Brown, Gibson and Shalin, with their staffs, will participate in the ceremonies.

Baltimore.—Gen. Wm. E. Martin, of Charleston, formerly clerk of the South Carolina Senate, died here to-day, aged 55.

Jackson, Michigan.—Jefferson Davis arrived here last evening.

Washington, 13.—Secretary Robeson to-day sent a cable dispatch to Admiral Radford, commanding the U. S. European fleet, directing him to detail one vessel to act as convoy to the ship bearing the remains of Mr. Geo. Peabody from London to this country.

Hon. Amos Kendall died this morning.

Secretary Boutwell officially announces the death of Robert J. Walker. Business will be suspended in the Treasury Department to-day for the burial.

Baltimore.—The funeral of George Peabody was observed to-day. Flags at half mast were on many buildings, numbers of which were draped in mourning, bells tolled, &c.

The *Republican's* Washington special says it is said that Minister Low will not start to China until after the meeting of Congress. He was averse to accepting the mission at all, and it is now asserted that he waits to have the mission raised to one of the first class, and if not done early in the session he will resign and return to California.

It now appears probable that the difference existing between the line and the staff of the Navy about the respective ranks will be amicably settled without an appeal to Congress as was threatened. It was the intention of Secretary Robeson to organize a board of naval officers to settle the points at issue between the two classes of officers, the boards to be composed of the heads of the different bureaus in the Navy Department three of whom belong to the line and three to the staff, but some of the representatives of the staff have submitted to the Secretary of the navy their grievances and their desires, and the Secretary has intimated that a compromise will be easily effected, the details of which he will submit to Congress in his forthcoming report.

Cincinnati.—Rabbi Lillenthal, in his service yesterday, spoke against the Pilgrims, and the instructions in the public schools as incompatible with the genius of American institutions, quoting the decisions of Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York courts disclosing that America is not a Christian country.

New York.—The entire custom frauds are estimated at \$800,000. They were committed during 1866 '7 and '8. The principal offender has not yet been arrested. His name is withheld. It appears that a few weeks ago W. J. Koc and W. H. Whittstid were arrested charged with being engaged in frauds; they have made a statement implicating Blatchford and Mullen as three brothers named Caldwell. The District Attorney demanded documentary evidence against them from the Treasury Department, and on Tuesday papers were brought in. The guilt of Blatchford depends on the genuineness of his initials upon the drawback claims. The examination of Mullen adjourned till to-morrow.

Lacross, Wis.—Last night two named Parker Bliss and Chas. G. V. were registered at the St. Charles Hotel. Wild left at midnight; Bliss was found at 4 p. m. to-day, in his room, dead, with two bullets through him. Wild probably murdered him.

Nashville.—J. D. Vincent was shot and mortally wounded at Lauck's to-day by a man named Burton.

New York.—Relative to the stupendous frauds in the drawback department of the Custom House the calls for the removal of collector Grinnell as incompetent to fill the post, although perfectly honest. It says frauds of Blatchford were brought Grinnell's notice three weeks ago, he refused to listen to the charges, subsequently gave Blatchford leave