

BY TELEGRAPH.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 29.—The cablegrams are from London: A letter from St. Petersburg gives a gloomy account of the new Czar's life at Gatschina, 30 miles from the capital. Before the Court removed thither, several hundred artisans of the Preobazinsky regiments were sent to make the necessary alteration. At midnight they assembled in the church at Gatschina, and were sworn to silence, death or Siberia being the penalty of the oath. Ten roubles were the price of each man's silence. The alterations were made in 48 hours. Vodki soon loosened the tongues of the workmen, and the following is a description of the precautions against assassination made in the palace of the Czar. A subterranean passage leads from the Czar's room to the stable, where numbers of horses are kept saddled and bridled day and night. Sentinels are posted at intervals of twenty yards all around the building. The imperial bedroom has two windows protected at night by massive iron shutters which can only be reached from the outside by passing through three spacious ante-chambers in which are posted 80 Cossacks armed to the teeth. They are allowed to speak and move about in two outer rooms, but in the hall adjoining the Czar's bedroom perfect silence is maintained all night. The general on duty for the day, sits in an easy chair, his Cossacks sitting on a divan which runs around the whole room. On the general's right is the knob of an electric apparatus which rings a bell in every guard-house within the Palace grounds. When the Emperor is about to retire, before shutting the door, he turns the outer handle so that no entrance can be effected until he himself personally opens the door from the inside. Unlike his father he can not endure armed soldiers in his bed chamber.

Several mines have been discovered at St. Petersburg. A quantity of dynamite was seized just after it had been introduced into the courtyard of the Palace of Gatschina, concealed in a load of hay.

The Czarina is seriously ill, being subject to severe nervous attacks and strange hallucinations.

Hessy Helfmann's illness is expected to be brought to a close in a very short time, and it is thought this will be the signal for her execution. The Paris *Intransigent* declares she has been ruthlessly tortured since a prisoner.

On Easter day revolutionary proclamations from the land and liberty party were found enclosed in Easter eggs distributed in the streets of Moscow. The proclamation urges the peasantry to seize the lands and refuse to pay taxes or serve in the army.

Count Waluzeff has resigned the presidency of the commission of ministers. His resignation is connected with the distribution of public lands during the administration of the ministry of Domino. No successor will be appointed as the commission of ministers will be abolished.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., 29.—Further news of the elevator fire at Girard Point is that: in four hours the entire elevator and warehouse were in ruins. The elevator was one of the largest in the country, had 12 elevating machines and a total working capacity of 54,000 bushels per hour, with a carrying capacity of 650,000 bushels. The Girard Point Storage Co. state the destruction of their elevator will not interfere with the prompt handling of grain at Girard Point. The company, with their elevator, are now unloading cars, and with their floating elevators and barges are prosecuting business as usual.

WASHINGTON, 29.—There has been much talk and speculation at the capital to-day concerning the scope and probable character of the recommendations that are to be made to the republican caucus next week by the committee which is charged with the duty of devising some comprehensive and acceptable plan of procedure in regard to the proposed immediate transaction of some portion of executive business. It appears to be substantially agreed that the Chinese treaties shall receive attention and if possible final action at the executive session then the uncontested nominations already on the calendar, and such as may be reported back from the committee at the first executive session will doubtless be confirmed with great rapidity, the preference of course

being given to cases of actual vacancy in office, but in view of a desire to keep the republican column solid for a subsequent renewal of the present contest with the democrats the caucus committee will doubtless omit from their programme any provision for bringing up contested cases and may be expected in fact to labor to prevent for the present any such possibility. Judge Robertson's nomination for instance, if brought before the Senate during the proposed temporary break of the deadlock would, it is apprehended, create bad feeling and dissensions that might divide the party on other questions throughout the remainder of the session. Senator Mahone, it is said, has expressed himself desirous that his case may be held back at present, as he would not care to be forced to vote either against the administration or against Conkling. It is reported, however, that Conkling is not disposed to pledge himself on this matter, preferring to reserve the right to make the fight whenever he thinks he can win it. This is one of the difficulties that the caucus committee will have to deal with and endeavor to adjust harmoniously. Another problem for them to report upon is Stanley Matthews' case and still another the nomination of Wm. E. Chandler. They will probably advise that the former be acted upon at an early day, but Chandler's nomination seems likely to be laid over. It is generally believed to-day that the caucus committee will be able to perform its work in time to report to the caucus next Monday, but this is quite doubtful. Well informed persons will not be surprised if the holiday of an executive session is deferred until the latter part of next week.

Special agents of the Postoffice who are investigating the Star route affairs were urged, to-day, to push the investigation along, as the Attorney General wishes to have some facts ready to submit to the cabinet at to-morrow's meeting. Inquiries to-night elicit the information that if the Attorney General is supplied with any report by to-morrow it will contain only the facts and circumstances relating to the alleged connection of employees of the department with a ring, that nothing in the way of further evidence against the leaders of the ring and touching their conduct as yet, is ready to be reported. A Star route contractor, who has a large number of contracts and has been in business for many years, said to a western associated press reporter to-night that he was not in the ring, but knew a good deal about it. His contracts are all in the old States east of the Mississippi river, and mostly short routes. He said that the efforts of the investigation so far, to induce members of the ring to turn States evidence and expose the whole thing, have failed in that the ring was still compact in resistance of exposure, and that is the difficulty in the way of getting direct testimony against it. He said the ring was composed of six firm contractors and a few officials who had used money freely, but had done it in a way that would not create evidence against them. Said further, that every one of the expedited routes were taken originally at figures that would not have paid actual expenses, and consequently it was plain the contractors knew beforehand that their routes would be expedited; that, in short, the conspiracy was arranged so as to take in only certain men; that the heads of the ring have been assured that all the members will stand firm and true to each other, but on the other hand, it can be stated, the administration realized the size of the job it had undertaken in this exposure and will use all its powers to show up the ring. Threats have been freely heard to-night, as coming from the ring against the administration, and of assailing through the papers that have supported the ring, the President particularly.

The assistant attorney general of the postoffice department has delivered an opinion affirming the right of a jail warden here to open letters addressed to United States prisoners. The opinion applies to all keepers of prisons in which United States prisoners are confined.

NEW YORK, 29.—The *Tribune's* Washington: Jones, of Nevada, is a strong friend of Conkling, and doubtless represents his views upon the committee. He will not advise anything that will insure the defeat of Conkling, although he may desire to have an executive session to consider the Chinese treaties.

It is said on apparently good authority that the committee agreed upon yesterday in the republican caucus will consist of Dawes, In-

galls, Jones, of Nevada, Cameron, of Wisconsin, Hill, of Colorado, Sewall and Rollins. The committee will have three days before another session of the Senate and the talk among Senators to-night is that an executive session will be allowed for consideration of the Chinese treaties on Tuesday next. Republicans will be very much mistaken if they suppose that the democrats are to submit quietly to the dictation of their caucus committee. Whenever an executive session may be ordered the democrats intend to consider the nominations as well as the treaties, and the nominations of Matthews, Chandler and Robertson will be industriously pressed for consideration, regardless of the efforts towards republican harmony.

Senator Dawes, chairman of the republican caucus committee, had a conference with the President to-day. The President is emphatic in urging the consideration of executive business, especially the rapid confirmation of nominations. A number of the pending nominations are to fill vacancies, the existence of which somewhat embarrasses the work of the departments. As soon as the Senate resumes executive session, the President has a number of nominations to make, some of which he has been requested by the parties selected for offices to hold back while the deadlock continues, as the gentlemen do not like to have their names hung up in the Senate. No doubt but the committee will arrange for an executive session next Tuesday to consider the Chinese treaties. This will take two or three days, and in the meantime the committee will arrange for action upon the nominations. The prevailing sentiment among republicans seems to be in favor of letting Robertson's nomination go over until next winter, but the caucus committee do not feel authorized to single out this case, as the courtesy of the Senate demands that it be left entirely to the New York senators.

The total number of nominations sent to the Senate to date and awaiting action in executive session is 217. These nominations include Wm. W. Phelps, of Minnesota, to Austria; Wm. H. Robertson, as collector of custom, New York; Mr. Elmer, as second assistant postmaster-general; W. A. M. Grier, third assistant postmaster-general; M. Hill, assistant secretary of state; and Mr. Price, as Indian commissioner.

Garfield said to a republican member of Congress, that he decided before leaving to enter to remove Gen. Brady, who wrote him during the campaign, offering to raise \$25,000 from the Star route contractors. Garfield declined the offer and set inquiries on foot.

NEW YORK, 29.—The *Tribune* says: The long pending proposition for the consolidation of the Texas and Pacific, and St. Louis and Iron Mountain Railroad is said to have been practically agreed upon, but not in accordance with the original proposition. The Philadelphia holders of Texas and Pacific stock desired a concession in their favor, and the Iron Mountain stockholders demanded a difference of 15 per cent. Gould is said to have been in favor of an exchange of stock upon equal terms, but ultimately agreed to waive his preferences. The agreement of consolidation on the part of the majority of the stockholders in both companies, which will be submitted at a meeting of the directors of both roads, is said to be that the Texas Pacific directors shall issue consolidated stock to holders of the Iron Mountain stock, and in consideration of absorbing the latter road will give a concession of about five per cent.

The *World* interviewed Gen. H. W. Slocum, yesterday, he having just returned from Mexico. He said: I am somewhat interested financially in the Tahauntepec road, and desired to see how the work was advancing. The first 12 miles from the eastern terminus is completed. Forty more are graded, and by July 1st, 50 miles will have been built, and will be in running order. Mr. McAlpine is there, and has selected a harbor for the western terminus, and will begin to build from that end immediately. A large quantity of rails and rolling stock will be shipped, therefore, within the next fortnight. The road is built entirely by New York capitalists, except that the company has a subsidy from the Mexican government of \$12,000 a mile, to be paid as the road advances, and this has been paid regularly so far, and probably will continue to be. While I was in the city of Mexico the sum of \$550,000 was put in the appropriation bill

to provide for the payment of the portion that is expected to be built during the year. Grant's road commences at a point on the coast about 15 miles below Vera Cruz, the place where Gen. Scott landed his troops. There is much opposition to the selection of a terminus, among the people of Vera Cruz, who do not like the idea of a rival seaport being built up so near them, and possibly some other point may be selected. The proposed course from there is directly west to the Pacific. No portion of this road has yet been built. It has no subsidy. I think Grant will succeed. He is popular and has some bright people around him, among the Mexican people, of great influence.

NEW YORK, 29.—The *Commercial Bulletin* says: The following extract from a private letter to a gentleman here is from one of the firm of McCormick & Co., the reaper manufacturers, of Chicago, and is based on the reports of their agents throughout the wheat region. We sent an inquiry to several hundred agents in the United States, and thus far learn from Indiana that they have about the same average as last year, and report an average damage to the crop of 22 per cent. Illinois reports a large increase in the acreage, and average damage of 29 per cent. From these reports we conclude these two States now promise about 80 per cent. of last year's crops, and will improve with the good weather now prevailing. Missouri and Kansas reports a very large increase in acreage, and much less damage than Illinois and Indiana. Nothing from Michigan and Ohio yet, but from general information we do not think they have as much wheat as last year.

PARIS, 29.—A cable says: St. Helaire has received the second note from the Porte, raising the question of the integrity of the Ottoman Empire in regard to Tunis, and stating that the Sultan, being the Bey's suzerain, has influence over him which France does not possess, and consequently at a single order of the Porte the Bey might be made to make all amends to France, thus saving the latter the necessity of coercive measures and risking diplomatic complications. The note hints at deposing the Bey in favor of his brother. France has, however, declined the proffered intervention, as she does not desire to acknowledge the Porte's suzerainty.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., 29.—Christian Koch, engine wiper for engine 36, which runs between Grand Island and St. Paul, upon returning to St. Paul from this place this morning, where he had been at work for a couple of days, went direct to his home and found the door locked. He looked in and saw one of his children in bed, and his wife lying with blood around her; upon the floor near the bed. He got the sheriff, and together they went in and found his three children in bed, and his wife on the floor, all with their throats cut, with a razor on a table near by. The children were aged 3 years, 2 years, and six months respectively. It is thought the mother first murdered her children and then committed suicide. A coroner's jury rendered a verdict in accordance with the above facts. No reason is given for the rash deed, and there is no evidence of insanity. She left only the word—"good-bye"—to explain it.

PHILADELPHIA, 29.—The *Times* of yesterday says: Ten iron giants for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will be built this summer at Altoona. They will be much larger and more powerful than the ordinary passenger engines, and are to be built for the particular purpose of making up time in portions of the road where there are long stops. The monster locomotive known as Giant No. 10 was built as an experiment, and the result has been satisfactory. The driving wheels are six feet six inches high.

DETROIT, 29.—A family named Weaver, eight in number, living near Crescoin Island, in a large marsh, are all down with scarlet fever, destitute, without covering and hungry. The atmosphere is miasmatic, and they were drinking surface water, which was unfit even for beasts. Physicians found one child dying, and the body after death turned black at once. Three children died in 24 hours. The type is the most malignant ever met.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., 29.—A volcano broke out on the farm of N. A. Jarnagin, in the southern portion of Ohio County. One day last week Jarnagin was attracted to the place by gas as it escaped from the earth, and found, on examination that the earth was seemingly on fire. He held

a coal over the place, and the heat caused it to ignite. Many persons have visited the place, and it is a source of wonder to all.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., 29.—A *Leader* special from Rawlins, Wyo., says: Colorow, the Ute Chief, and 75 lodges of Utes are camped within three miles of the post on White River. Colorow, told Colonel Moore commanding the troops of the Sixth Infantry, to leave with all the troops within five days. The action of the Indians indicates trouble. Colorow is next in authority to Jack, in the band of White River Utes.

ST. LOUIS, 30.—The *Republican's* Lexington, Mo., says: The Missouri River is 22 feet 8 inches at this point, higher than it has been since 1841. The Troy and Lafayette County bottoms are submerged and are being rapidly depopulated. No lives have yet been lost, but a thousand horses, cattle and hogs must inevitably perish. The ferry boat *Undine*, with a gallant volunteer crew, has been at work five days rescuing endangered people. To-day she brought out of the bottoms 260 persons, animals, 25 loaded wagons and loads of household goods. She goes out again to-morrow. The water is many houses from which the people were taken was several feet in depth. There is fearful loss of property and much suffering and distress.

NEW YORK, 30.—The *Tribune's* Washington has reason to believe executive sessions of the Senate will soon be held, possibly Thursday. The first business will be the consideration of the Chinese treaties. When the treaties were first published, an effort was made to create a sentiment of opposition to them, and there appeared to be a prospect that the Pacific Coast senators would all vigorously oppose them. Now, however, it is understood all those senators are strongly in favor of the treaties which are expected will be promptly ratified.

General Brady writes the *Tribune* a letter, wherefrom the following extracts: As soon as Garfield was inaugurated, I became aware of a pressure upon him for the position then held, and in order to relieve him from the slightest embarrassment, I caused him to know that any time it would accommodate, my resignation could be had. There were no charges against me of any nature of which I then knew, and when it was suggested to me by the Postmaster-General that the time had arrived when I could accommodate the President, I promptly made good my assurance. The charge that I resigned on compulsion under charges of corruption and malfeasance is absolutely untrue. I have since been informed and need not say how much to my surprise, that the President has stated he did ask for my resignation and that his first knowledge of it was its presentation to him by the Postmaster-General during my connection with the office as second assistant Postmaster-General, covering a period of nearly five years and controlling the expenditure of nearly a hundred millions of dollars. It is conceded by the present Postmaster-General as it was by Congress, that I acted at all times exactly in accordance with the law, and judgment has impugned, but no responsible person has yet charged me with 'corruption or malfeasance.'

After going into some details of the Star route service, whereby he shows nothing was done falsely or unjustly he concludes: "It is quite possible that the discretion the grant to the Postmaster General, by which he was permitted to expedite a route, was unwise. I twice recommended to congress that I should fix a limit and finally, upon that suggestion it was defined and limited. While the authority was left with the Postmaster General, was used, and the facts in every case were reported to Congress. All figures quoted by you and other newspapers were communicated to me to Congress, and thus made public. Congress investigated, examined both officials and contractors, listened to disappointed bidders, and those patriotic newspaper correspondents who every hour of their time sustain a painful look of solicitude for fear that the government may be cheated, granted ample time for fair discussion and voted by a decided majority to sustain the action of the department. Now, I find you assume that nothing has been settled and that all these matters are to be reopened and rejudged by the newspapers."

The *World's* Washington special says: Hayes has been heard from in regard to what he knew of the