

## BY TELEGRAPH.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

## AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 5.—The general character of Blaine's circular note to Central and South America has become known. It bears the date of the middle of November, and was sent by the same steamer which conveyed Trescott and Walker Blaine. It sets forth at considerable length the attitude of the United States towards other Republics upon this and the South American continent, affirming it is our policy to use the good offices of this nation to establish and perpetuate peace between the various nations, to which this note is addressed. He affirms it is not the desire or policy of the United States to interfere in the domestic concerns of any of these nations, but that the commercial interests of the United States are deeply interested in the existence of harmonious relation between the various Republics themselves, and between each and the United States. The letter, after discussing at great length the mutual interests of the United States and the nations addressed, treats the question of the great influence of European powers upon the two American continents, and virtually proposes that the United States and various other Republics to which the circular letter is sent, should come to a mutual understanding in regard to this matter, and propose mutual guarantees against any interference or supervision from abroad.

The letter was prepared with great care, and while the subjects alluded to are fully discussed, the tone of the letter is said to be eminently conservative. The letter proposes on behalf of the United States, an International Conference of the republics of Mexico and Central and South America, to meet at Washington on the 30th of next November. The request is made that the authorities each should name two commissioners to represent their Government at this conference. The object is to discuss questions of mutual interest, and promote friendly relations. It is understood at the same time this letter was dispatched, a second circular letter was mailed to each of our ministers, setting forth that while it was well understood to be a very delicate matter for one nation to mention pecuniary matters to another in connection with such invitations as had been extended by the United States, still our Government desires to delay all the expenses of this conference, and it was, therefore, in the discretion of each minister to call this fact to the attention of the Government to which he is accredited in such a way as shall appear to him most fitting.

Judge Cox has issued the following directions as to the management of the court room during the argument in the case of Guiteau: All visitors will be allowed to be seated in the northeast corner of the room; the jury is in this corner; no visitors to enter there after the argument is concluded any day, so as to pass between counsel and jury; though visitors may be admitted who are invited to seats on the bench. All persons leaving the court room during the argument must pass out through the south door to avoid passing between counsel and jury, and for that object a passage way is to be left between the trial table and the audience. The south passage way to be kept sufficiently clear to allow passing in and out. The marshal is charged with the execution of the foregoing directions.

The northeastern States of Mexico have recently united in a demand upon the Federal Government of Mexico that Zona Libre, or free belt, shall be extended to the Pacific, covering the entire border of the United States. It now extends from the Gulf of Mexico along the Rio Grande about half way to the Pacific Coast. When this proposal came to the knowledge of the United States government, Minister Morgan was instructed to protest against it on the ground that Zona Libre made smuggling easy. It is understood that Romero is, or soon will be, on his way to Washington, with authority to enter upon negotiations for a reciprocal treaty with Mexico. If such a treaty is consummated, it is believed that one of its important features will be the abolishment of the Zona Libre.

The bill introduced in the House to-day by Representative Hawk, of Illinois, to provide for reorganizing the army and disciplining of militia,

provides that every able-bodied man, citizen between 18 and 45 years shall be enrolled in the militia in such times and in such manner as may be provided in each State and Territory respectively, the militia to be divided into two classes, a national guard and a reserve guard. The bill requires every organization in the active militia to go into camp several days each year and be subject to orders from the President in time of need for services on the part of the United States for the period of not exceeding twelve months.

Reports at the post office department indicate smallpox spreading through the country. A postmaster in Pennsylvania writes that the disease has appeared in his town, and a doctor treating a number of cases persists in calling at the office for his mail matter. Many citizens notified the postmaster they will refuse to receive their mails if these visits are allowed, and the official is in a quandary and asks for advice. He has been informed that he has no power to prevent persons from calling for their mail, and under these circumstances the matter must be mutually arranged between the citizens and the doctor.

Guiteau's counsel will give Judge Cox their points to-morrow and Judge Cox will rule on them immediately after the opening of Court on Saturday.

David will occupy the day in opening for the prosecution. Scoville and Reed will reply and Guiteau will be allowed to address the jury if he desires. Judge Porter will close.

Scoville thinks the arguments will require four days. If so, the case will go to the jury by Thursday next.

Senators Miller and Slater presented a number of petitions from citizens of California and Oregon, praying for legislation to regulate railroad transportation charges, and Miller presented memorials and resolutions recently adopted by the San Francisco Board of Trade, Merchants' Exchange and Produce Exchange, urging the establishment of additional signal stations on the Pacific Coast and a central signal service office at San Francisco.

New YORK, 5.—The *Graphic's* correspondent says: Gen. Grant's declaration that he has become convinced that an injustice was done Fitzjohn Porter, promises to cause a re-opening of the case. Gen. Logan, who was leader of the opposition to Porter in the Senate, was asked today whether he, too, had changed his mind on the subject. He said decidedly that he had not. He remarked that he had nothing to say about Grant's opinion and conclusion, but for himself, he had spent months studying it and he had reached the conclusion that Porter had not been unjustly dealt with, to say the least. He did not expect to change his mind, and if the case was again reopened he should again oppose the restoration of Porter to the army as he had done in the past. He was sorry Grant had expressed the opinion he had, but it could not affect his opinion.

The comptroller of currency has authorized the Lincoln National Bank of New York to commence business with a capital of \$300,000. This is the bank which recently made ex-Secretary Thomas L. James, of the Garfield Cabinet, its President.

The number of deaths recorded at the Bureau of Vital Statistics, yesterday, was 150, the great increase being due to the sudden severity of the weather. The usual daily rate is under 100.

BOSTON, 5.—Governor Long's message asks for the vigorous enforcement of license, reasserts his belief in woman suffrage and protests against the barbarism of capital punishment.

OMAHA, 5.—On Tuesday night at Camp Clark station, on the Black Hills stage road, 25 miles north of Sidney, Con Schlegel, employed in Charles Moore's store, was instantly killed by a pistol shot through the head. Harry Hall was arrested on charge of committing the deed by Harry Clarke, who brought him to Sidney and lodged him in jail. The coroner's inquest will be held to-morrow, when the mystery may be solved. Hall says he is a nephew of Governor Nance and denies having done the deed, but claims that Schlegel committed suicide. A stock tender of the stage company, however, says that Hall placed the muzzle of the revolver close to Schlegel's head and fired. They had some dispute about money matters.

CATTLESBURG, Ky., 5.—Judge Brown has taken the Gibbon's mur-

derers on a steamer to Maysville, Kentucky, for safe keeping. The mob took the steamer *Mountain Girl* and went in pursuit. It is thought the prisoners may reach Maysville.

Ironton, Ohio, 5.—The prisoners passed here at 2 o'clock p.m., and the mob have not yet reached here (2.40 p.m.) The mob are understood to be trying to secure a train to head off the murderers at Portsmouth or the nearest point below.

QUINCY, Ill., 5.—During the funeral of Rev. Simon Kuhlenthal at the Salem Evangelical Church this afternoon, a frightful panic occurred. In the rush for the street, some forty persons were injured, six, all ladies, seriously. The church is one of the largest in the city. All the seats were filled and standing room in the aisle and about the doors were occupied. Soon after services a seat in the gallery broke down. People in the vicinity thought the gallery was giving way and a rush commenced. Men, women and children poured out of the doors leading from the main floor and gallery into the hall leading to the street. All efforts to stop them were fruitless; the people were frantic and would not listen to anyone. In less than two minutes the doorway was blocked up and the scene that followed was indescribable. Women who were caught in the crowd were thrown down and trampled upon. Their shrieks and the shouting of men who seemed to be frightened out of their senses, were fearful. For fully ten minutes the doorway was blocked up and during the greater portion of this time, half a dozen women lay on the steps under the feet of the frightened crowd. A few men who had lost their sense went to work heroically to rescue and succeeded in getting them out after they had been walked over by a large number of men. As fast as taken out the victims were taken to adjoining houses and cared for. It was found that several were seriously and probably fatally hurt. Mrs. Spilker, a married woman aged about forty-five, received internal injuries and it is supposed will die. Maggie Meyer, a young lady, was bruised in the face by boot heels and injured internally. Mary Meyers, Mary Ann Riter, Minnie Beards, and Miss Dickhut, young women, all received serious injuries and their recovery is doubtful. Mrs. Deleman, an old lady, and Miss Lohman, and Miss Wiseman were badly injured. Reverend Hottenbrach, who was caught in the crowd, had a rib broken. Many who were knocked down and cut and slightly injured were taken home as soon as they escaped and their names were not ascertained. There was no occasion for the scare and no cause for a panic. After the excitement which lasted half an hour the funeral ceremonies were resumed. Up to 8 o'clock this evening the victims were alive but there is little hope for Mrs. Spilker, Miss Meyers and Miss Bundy.

OKALOOSA, Iowa, 5.—An explosion occurred at 4 o'clock p.m. yesterday, whereby 500 kegs of powder, the property of the American Powder Company, went up with a terrific convulsion, caused by some boys using the wooden magazine as a target for breech-loading rifles. Three boys, John Phillip, son of the Mayor, whose father drew the rifle as a prize on New Year's day, Gerald Joyce and John Stedman were the boys engaged in the target practice, and were all killed, fearfully mangled and burned. They were carried from 50 to 200 yards away from the magazine and mutilated almost beyond recognition. The explosion caused great damage to windows, nearly all the plate glass fronts in the business part of the city being wrecked, while many houses in the north part of the city suffered severely, the damage aggregating not less than \$20,000. Many other persons were injured by falling glass and debris.

SAN FRANCISCO, 6.—The Rev. James Cameron, pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, of Oakland, died yesterday evening from the effects of poison. His wife gave him a dose of carbolic acid by mistake for medicine.

DECATUR, Ills., 6.—A horrible discovery has been made at the poorhouse farm when the search was instituted among the ruins of the building destroyed by fire. It was found that three of the inmates, Isaac Franklin, Martin Casey and Franklin Fletcher, had perished in the flames. The total loss on the building is \$15,000; insurance \$9,000 in the Phoenix, of Hartford, Home, of N. Y., and Queen, of London.

NEW YORK, 6.—John A. Balwin's furniture store in Williamsburg was burned. Loss \$30,000; insured.

The *Herald's* Washington special says: Delegate McGinnis of Montana proposes an excellent way to put a stop to the political power of Utah polygamy and to place the polygamous Mormons under the proper control of the law. His proposition is to let Congress divide the Territory of Utah, incorporating the western part with the State of Nevada the south eastern part with the State of Colorado, and the small northern part with Idaho and Wyoming. Congress has abundant power to do this, and it is evident that when it is done the Mormon power will be broken. Part of the Mormon population will be then citizens of Nevada, and will be only a minority of the whole State and part will become citizens of Colorado in the minority there. The main portion of the Mormon population would thus become citizens of States which have already established constitutions and laws to which the Mormons would of course be amenable. McGinnis remarks that such a division of Utah and the distribution of its parts would not only be perfectly legal and proper, but would have the advantage that the new boundaries would be natural instead of artificial.

Despatches from Texas say: It is disbelieved that the Chinamen reported massacred a few days ago on the Southern Pacific Railroad were killed by Apaches or any other Indians. The indications are that the deed was committed by disguised white men recently employed on the railroad.

PHILADELPHIA, 6.—The picker room of the Smith Scofield mills at Manayunk was partly destroyed. Loss, \$50,000; insured.

WASHINGTON, 6.—The House committee on appropriations met this morning and made the following assignment of sub-committees for bills made for sundry civil appropriations:

Hiscock, Butterworth, Blackburn, Atkins.

Legislative, executive and judicial: Cannon, O'Neill, Atkins.

Consular and diplomatic: Burrows, Robeson, and Cox.

Army: Butterworth, Burrows, Ellis.

Postoffice: Caswell, Oatman, Ellis.

Indian: Ryan, Caswell, Lefevre.

Pensions: O'Neill, Burrows, Lefevre.

Military Academy: Blackburn, Ryan, Butterworth.

Fortifications: Forney, Ketchum, Ryan.

District of Columbia: Ketchum, Hiscock, Ferry.

Deficiency: Hiscock, Robeson, Cox.

WASHINGTON, 6.—In the case of *Ranchael Alsais*, where proceedings were pending in the United States district court for the confirmation or correction of a survey at the date of the passage of the act of July 1st, 1864, the Secretary of the Interior has decided the jurisdiction of the court attached, notwithstanding the fact that prior to that time the matter had been misstated and improperly brought into court under an erroneous construction of the act of June 14th, 1860, the word "pending," used without qualification, means "actual pendency," without reference to the question whether or not objection might be raised to the original jurisdiction in the case; consequently approval of the survey by the court in 1865 was final, and nothing remains for the Commissioner of the General Land Office but to issue the patent in conformity to the decree. The Secretary further decides that the decree of the court of the United States upon proceedings substantially the same where the United States were a party, is conclusive upon the subject matter, unless reversed upon appeal in judicial tribunals, and that the executive branch of the government has no authority to reverse it, regard or set aside, and that when such decision has been rendered upon survey under the acts of 1864, and be approved, it is necessary final and must be followed by an issue of patent. In the case which called this forth the Commissioner of the General Land Office decided that inasmuch as the case was not properly before the court, it was not pending in the sense that this word is used in the act of June 14th, 1860. This decision reversed the Commissioner's ruling and confirms to the parties in whose favor the court decided.

Scoville and Reed have finished the preparation of prayers to be offered by the defense to the court for instructions to the jury. There are 14 prayers. The main points raised

are, that legal testimony is whether the act was done as a result of insane delusion or committed under an influence or power which the accused could not resist by reason of his unsoundness of mind; that if the accused would not have done the act but for such insane delusions, he is not guilty of the crime charged against him; that if the jury have reasonable doubts as to the insanity of the accused they should give him the benefit of the doubt; that the jury may take into account the manifestations of feelings on the part of witness; that the jury have a right to consider the suppression of evidence by the prosecution as raising the presumption that such evidence if produced, would be unfavorable to the prosecution; that if the jury believed the prisoner of sound mind, but without malice in the commission of the act, they should render a verdict of manslaughter; that the jury should find a verdict of not guilty upon the counts of indictment representing the death of the President in the District of Columbia, and that a knowledge that his act was contrary to law, would not make the accused liable to punishment if he did it under the insane delusion that it was commanded by God.

The Superintendent of the Railroad Mail Service has issued a circular to division superintendents, in which he says: "In view of the prevalence of smallpox throughout the country, at the present time, you are instructed in every case where where a report is made to you in regard to the matter, with regard to mail communication it be suspended between the infected locality and others, and to take necessary action at once without waiting to consult this office. This is necessary in order that the department shall not in any way be responsible for spreading any contagious disease."

Many House committees organized to-day and arranged days of meeting.

The District of Columbia committee decides to report favorably the bill to incorporate the Garfield Memorial Hospital. Garrison was instructed to take charge of the bill and prepare reports. The bill provides for the establishment of the Garfield Memorial Hospital, to be located in the District. It is to be supported by voluntary contributions and is to be managed by a board of corporators. Among the incorporators named in the bill are J. G. Blaine, Wm. Windom, David G. Swain, Jas. Gillfillan and Judge McArthur.

WASHINGTON, 6.—The President has approved the recommendation of the Secretary of the Interior touching the report of the government railroad commissioners upon a newly completed 109-mile section of the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad, and has accepted the same. This action conforms to the railroad company patents to over 250,000 acres of land for each mile. The new section runs from a point near Isleta, New Mexico, in a westerly direction across the boundary line into Arizona.

Orth's protest has created quite a stir in congressional circles, and has given rise to considerable feeling, which manifests itself in pretty plain talk. Those who like Orth were disappointed in committee positions, have given their side with him, and condemn the Speaker, while the majority who approve the committee appointments, defend the Speaker and censure Orth. It is asserted by Orth's friends that Keifer was moved by personal feelings against Orth, caused by the latter's refusal to withdraw from the Speakership contest, when the members of the Indiana delegation wanted to vote for Keifer. It is understood the Speaker denies this.

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—For a week the city has been so much broken up and demoralized in various ways by the holidays, a very small amount of business has been done in this city. Trade generally is in an eminently sound condition, and the outlook for the coming year is a most hopeful one. There is no great change to note in the money market. Rates for loans have been fully 6 per cent. all through this week, with an occasional charge for commission through the busy hours. The stock market has been active and unsettled. From the present aspect of affairs, it seems to be nip and tuck between the bulls and bears with alternate advantages. The public still keep out of the street. Quietness still prevails in the jobbing and commission houses. The spring trade, however, is commencing and orders are beginning to come in from the more remote country districts to