

[SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.]

By Telegraph.

Per WESTERN UNION Telegraph Line

CONGRESSIONAL.

HOUSE.

Whitmore introduced a bill to create an additional collection district in Texas, and to make the city of Sabine Pass a port of entry; and a bill relating to the survey of the Natchez and Agulha rivers Texas.

The House resumed the consideration of the resolution of the committee on foreign affairs with reference to the dispute between Minister Washburne and the late government of Paraguay.

Finally a resolution was offered by Farnsworth, directing a court of inquiry for the trial of Admirals Gordon and Davis, which was adopted by 60 against 26.

The resolution of Orth, disapproving the conduct of Rear-Admiral Davis, in reference to Bliss and Masterman, was adopted, 100 to 62. The minority report of the committee was presented by Swann and then rejected, but fourteen voting for the affirmation.

The session of the House to-day was devoted exclusively to general debate, as in committee of the whole. Wilson of Minnesota, and Rogers addressed the House in exposure of the Republican frauds in the late election in Arkansas.

GENERAL.

AUGUSTA.—Governor Penham's message is almost wholly devoted to local matters. The State debt amounts to eight million, sixty-eight thousand dollars.

BOSTON.—The failure of Hall, Dome and Bullock, wholesale dealers in woollen goods, Sumner St. is announced.

WASHINGTON, 5.—The Senate confirmed the following nominations of postmasters: Geo. T. Holt, Coripne, Utah; and Isaac Moore, Ogden City, Utah.

Senator Abbott, to-day, presented resolutions from the North Carolina Legislature, asking for the removal of political disabilities from Ex-Governor Vance, U. S. Senator elect from that State. The resolutions were referred to a special committee on political disabilities.

ST. LOUIS, 5.—The legislature organized, by the election of P. O. Wilson, Democrat, Speaker, by a vote of 84 to 50. D. A. Suttan, Democrat, was elected clerk. All the other officers are Democrats. The senate elected Lewis Gottschalk, Liberal Republican, Speaker pro tem, and for secretary, Hendricks, Democrat, was elected. Miss Belle Finlayson was unanimously elected engraving clerk.

OMAHA.—The Legislature met, at Lincoln, to-day and organized, by the election of Cunningham as President of the Senate, and Collins Speaker of the House.

NEW YORK, 5.—The Union Republican General committee, this eve, elected Horace Greeley President. Upon taking the chair he made an address. He endorsed Grant's administration and urged harmony in the Republican party.

A dispatch to the *Herald*, dated London 4th says it is known, in the highest German circles, that a desperate effort to reduce Paris is being made. Upon the reduction of the forts on the southwest and northeast sides of the city, the enciente will be stormed. The present movement of Bourbaki and Chauzey is more dangerous than ever before.

NEW YORK 2.—The books of a German importing house were seized, for evasion of the custom laws, but were released, to-day upon payment of a fine of seventy thousand dollars.

A dispatch to the *Herald*, dated London 5, says your correspondent at Versailles, on the second, states that the bombardment of the forts, on the northeast of Paris, continues vigorously, uninterrupted by anything. The return of the fire is weak, especially Noisy and Nasiny, and the destruction of those forts is certain. It is believed that an attack is intended, to prevent a sortie from that side, and will be only preliminary to a general bombardment. Events are evidently pressing towards a climax. Information here leads to the belief that Chauzey is making a desperate effort to advance on Paris, via Chartres.

Considerable excitement has been created here at the exposure of the fact

that the manufacturers of Solinger have been as active as English manufacturers in supplying arms to the French.

Bismarck has been confined to bed for the past few days, but is now recovering.

Reports from Paris state that a serious quarrel exists between members of the Government, and also that deep resentment is expressed against some of the acts of the delegates at Bordeaux.

A *Herald's* correspondent, at Madrid, writes on the 28th of Dec., in regard to the assassination of Prim: The General's adjutant gave me the first connected story; he witnessed the scene, having occupied the front seat in the carriage. His own version of the affair is as follows: Prim and two aides as usual left the Cortes at the conclusion of the debate, in the evening at half-past seven o'clock and entered the carriage and drove rapidly the shortest way from the Cortes to the War Office.

The streets were deserted at the point where Calle Del Tured debouches into Alcala, the broadest street in the city, through a narrow passage, two hired cabs were drawn up and obstructed the way. This is so common an event, however, that it would scarcely attract notice, but Lieutenant Mayo, my informant, dropped the glass in the door nearest him and looked out, just in time to see two men advancing from the shadow of the cabs. He had barely time to cry out "stoop General, they are going to fire," when the muzzles of blunderbusses were dashed into the carriages through the windows shivering the glass to atoms, and the contents discharged point blank at the occupants in the back seat, who must have been undistinguishable in the darkness. The next moment the assassins darted back under cover of the cabs and so around into the Alcala, where they mounted two horses that were tied to trees and in an instant were safe from pursuit because of the snow and darkness. The coachman dashed the horses forward against a number of cabs, upsetting one, and drove in hot haste to the war office, where the wounded man alighted. Prim simply remarked to the sentinel, "I am wounded, but not much."

WASHINGTON, 6.—The members of the ways and means committee have decided to tender Schenck a dinner before his departure for England.

Senator Morton expresses the opinion that the President will not appoint any member of Congress on the San Domingo Commission in the event of the passage of the Senate resolution by the House.

The committee on foreign affairs, to-day, postponed the San Domingo matter until next Monday. In the meantime the committee will make further examinations as to the propriety of sending a committee to San Domingo.

WASHINGTON, 7.—The report that has been circulated that the Spanish Minister is engaged through agents, in opposing the annexation of San Domingo, has no foundation. The Minister takes no part whatever in the controversy. It is officially known that negotiations are in progress for the appointment of claims arising out of Cuban matters.

The rumors, current yesterday, of the suspension of the commission house of Gardner, Bacon & Co., prove to have been well founded. No suspension for a long time has caused so much surprise as this. The failures of Messrs. Horswell, Kinsley & French and also Holdane & Bullock, dry goods merchants, of Boston are announced, to-day. It was further rumored that a large firm, in the sugar trade at Boston, had failed. These continued Boston failures cause uneasy feelings in financial circles.

A dispatch to the *World* from London, says Jules Favre is coming here.

General Trochu accuses the garrison of Avron of cowardice.

NEW YORK, 6.—English papers state that Sir R. Murchison is pronounced out of danger, but much shaken by his recent indisposition.

There is a report that Dr. Livingston has arrived at Mozambique, and was waiting a vessel bound for England.

A dispatch to the *Herald* says: "The Prussians, on the morning of the 4th, surprised and dispersed a French force on the left bank of the Seine, near Rouen, capturing three stands of colors, two cannon and four hundred and fifty prisoners. The siege continues. Gen. Gluer, commanding the German force in the valley of the Seine, reports that he evacuated Dijon, in accordance with orders from headquarters, and reached Vesoul on the 29th ult. He adds that he still holds the passage of the river Seine.

Mercantile failures continue and seem to be spreading over the country. The

failure of Switzer, Church & Co., dry goods merchants of Boston and Kansas City, is announced, to-day. This afternoon the street is filled with rumors of failures, including a large dry goods firm of Philadelphia.

ALBANY, 6.—This evening, just as the 8.20 Boston train started from Union depot and was crossing the Hudson river bridge, a man sprang into the American express car, shot the express messenger, T. A. Halpine, through the neck and in the right eye and right ear. The robber then took the keys from the messenger and opened the safe, from which he abstracted \$2,259 in bills. He accomplished all this while crossing the bridge. On arriving at East Albany he jumped off the train and made his escape. The crime was not discovered until the train had stood at the East Albany depot for some minutes.

SAN FRANCISCO, 6.—In an affray in Virginia, Nev., yesterday, Constable John Britton was shot twice by young Garrad, son of W. M. Garrad, who was recently appointed private secretary to Governor Brady. The wounds are supposed to be mortal.

In the California supreme court yesterday, an order was filed throwing out of the court the briefs of Attorney-General Hamilton and J. W. Sanderson in the Railroad cases, on the ground that they were disrespectful to the court, and expressing surprise that an ex-justice of the supreme court and the Attorney-General of the State should file such briefs.

Murphy, shot by Dennis Gunn for the seduction of his sister, having died, Gunn this morning waived an examination on the charge of murder, and was committed for trial.

NEW HAVEN, 5.—At the adjourned meeting of the House Insurance Co., it appeared that the re-insurance fund had been made up, but it appeared certain that the new capital stock would not be subscribed. The losses since December are very heavy. The whole matter is referred back to the directors, with authority to take discretionary action for the safety of the creditors. This will probably lead to an assignment.

CHICAGO, 6.—The Republican Senatorial caucus, of the Minnesota legislature, met last night, and nominated Wm. Windom for the full term, and O. P. Stearns for the unexpired term of the late Senator Norton.

The situation in the Illinois Senatorial contest shows no change. Logan is believed sure of the caucus nomination, but many express the opinion that an outside combination may be formed strong enough to elect governor Palmer, who, while not a candidate, will, it is said, consent to become so under certain circumstances.

INDIANAPOLIS, 7.—The State Senate yesterday passed a resolution by 25 to 20, appointing a committee of seven to form a standing committee of the Senate, thus taking this privilege out of the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor, and giving the Democrats control of the committees. Hughes and Elliott, Senators, elected as Republicans, voted with the Democrats, as they did in the organization of the Senate, and it is said will continue to do so.

BOSTON, 7.—Gov. Claflin was inaugurated to-day and delivered his message to the Legislature.

SAN FRANCISCO, 7.—Suits, involving the ownership of stock in the Oregon Central railroad, and the division and partnership of property and interests, valued at over nine millions of dollars, have been commenced in the fifth district court, by John Nightingale and C. G. Elliott, contractors, &c., against Ben. Holladay & Co., Theodore R. Brooks, Milton S. Latham, C. Temple Emmitt, Wm. Norris and others.

Capt. James McElroy, of San Francisco, died suddenly, aged 50. He was a native of New York.

The Labor Exchange provided, last year, employment for 4,306 persons, over half of whom were women.

SAN FRANCISCO, 8.—The North Pacific transportation company announce, in the New Zealand papers, that they have entered into a contract, with the Postmaster General of New Zealand, to carry the mails between San Francisco, Honolulu, Fiji, Auckland, Wellington, Lyttelton and Port Chalmers, monthly, and will put on the steamship *Nebraska*, *Nevada* and *Dakota*, of Webb's old Panama opposition line. The contract is for twenty years, with a subsidy, from New Zealand, of three hundred thousand dollars a year. The first steamer to leave San Francisco on February 16th.

Prince Alfred sailed on the 16th of November, from New South Wales, for New Caledonia, Auckland and England.

Bandmann, the actor, has disappeared suddenly from Melbourne, leaving his wife behind. Some scandal is rumored in connection with his disappearance.

In connection with the great damage done throughout Australia by floods, the grain crops promise well.

The U. S. steamer *Saginaw* went ashore on the morning of Saturday, October 29th, on Ocean Island. Very few of her provisions were saved, though the ship did not go to pieces until the 14th of November. On the 18th of November, her executive officer, Lieut. Talbot, with sub-officers, started in a gig for the Sandwich Islands. After enduring incredible suffering they reached Kauai December the 18th, but all of them were so weak that Lieutenant Talbot, Peter Frances, Quarter-master James Muir, and John Andrew were drowned in the surf in landing. The bodies were recovered. The news was sent, at once, to Honolulu, and the schooner *Rona*, a packet, was sent by the American Minister, with provisions and water for two days. The steamer *Kilauea* was placed at his disposal by the government and also dispatched. It is hoped she will arrive in season to save the lives of the wrecked crew, ninety in number, all of whom were on quarter rations.

NEW YORK, 7.—A fire on the fifth floor of No. 27 Barclay street, last night, destroyed the large Catholic book publishing house of P. O. Shean; loss, about \$30,000. Weed Bro's, importers of champagne, lost \$10,000.

Late foreign exchanges state, on apparently good authority, that the Prussians have again prohibited the merchants of Champagne from sending their wine to Belgium for transmission thence to England or elsewhere.

La Liberte says the floating population of Bordeaux is daily increasing. It is estimated that already 40,000 persons have arrived in Bordeaux with the government.

Accounts from Bucharest state that the agitation of Roumanian independence is confined to the newspapers, and is not supported by the government.

The American Merchants Union Express Co. advertise a reward of five thousand dollars for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of the party who robbed, and attempted to murder, their messenger while crossing the railroad bridge from Albany, at 8 o'clock on Friday evening.

No cable dispatches of to-day's date have been yet received. The delay is still attributed to the crowded business upon the wires.

WASHINGTON, 7.—Those interested in the general amnesty bill have, after a thorough canvas of both houses, come to the conclusion that nothing of the kind is possible at this session. The character of the President's reply to the resolution of Morton, inquiring into the condition of affairs in North Carolina and other States, which will be sent to the Senate on Monday is such that it would have defeated the amnesty, even had it been well under way. The President's friends are decided on the subject.

Vinnie Ream's full length statue of Lincoln was privately exhibited to a large number of gentlemen in the rotunda of the Capitol this morning. The work is pronounced a great success.

General Pleasanton has issued an order, that all permits now outstanding, granting authority to supervisors or other internal revenue officers to visit Washington, or absent themselves from their districts, when in their opinion the exigencies of the service so require, are revoked. All officers who may hereafter receive permission to visit Washington, will be required to register in a book, which has been prepared, their names, and by what authority they are there, the extent of their leave of absence, and their address while in the city.

LYNCHBURG.—A fire, last night, destroyed the commission warehouse of Locke & Armistead, with a large stock of goods. The adjoining buildings were damaged. The total loss is \$25,000.

ALBANY.—No clue is yet secured to the assassin who attacked and robbed the Merchants' Union Express messenger last night. The messenger, Halpine, was in a favorable condition this afternoon.

A dispatch to the *Herald*, dated London, says Delbruck is at Versailles arranging for the formation of a House of Lords for the German Empire. Faidherbe's victory, on the third instant, was strategical and tactical and was designed to deceive the enemy. He is now advancing towards Picon.

The casemates of forts Issy and Vandres were battered down, after a fight of