

gate. Mud and mire almost everywhere. Prospects for agricultural pursuits rather gloomy. Our crops of small grain have been, mostly, in the ground at this time in previous years; but now, not a furrow turned, and the prospects not flattering of a very speedy beginning to plow and snow. Feed for teams of every sort nearly all gone. Even straw would be in demand, if we had it. Much stock has perished for lack of food.

Providence has more ways than one to bring famine upon the land. It behooves every one to husband well his resources. If we were all prepared for famine, it would do us but little harm, but unprepared it could do us much harm.

People generally well, some children afflicted with whooping cough, My own health is not very good; yet I live in hopes that with the coming of warm, dry weather my health will be good again.

Respectfully,

ORSON HYDE.

By Telegraph.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 18.—Merriman submitted a resolution instructing the judiciary committee to inquire into the expediency of providing a reasonable statute of limitations bearing on the part of U. S. to sue upon official bonds, with leave to report by bill or otherwise; agreed to.

Mr. Anthony introduced a bill relating to the sale of congressional records and other public documents. It authorizes the congressional printer to furnish copies of the Record and extracts therefrom to members of Congress at cost, and other public documents with ten per cent. additional thereon, and to collect after delivery. Passed.

WASHINGTON, 19.—The galleries of the Senate chamber were again densely crowded, ladies predominating; so great was the rush that it was found necessary to close some of the doors soon after the Senate was called to order. Tables and seats for the use of the managers and of the accused and his counsel were arranged, as on Monday. Immediately after the journal of yesterday's proceedings was read, the Chair laid before the Senate the following message—

"To Senate of the U. S.

"Herewith I return the Senate bill No. 172, entitled an act fixing the salary of the President of the U. S., without my approval. I am constrained to this course from a sense of duty to my successors in office, to myself, and to what is due to the dignity of the position of Chief Magistrate of a nation of more than forty million of people. When the salary of the President of the U. S. was fixed by Congress at \$25,000 per annum, we were a nation of but 3,000,000 of people, poor from a long and exhausted war, without commerce or manufactures, with but few wants, and those cheaply supplied; the salary must then have been deemed small for the responsibilities, necessity, but justifiably so from the impoverished condition of the treasury and the simplicity it was desired to cultivate in the republic. The salary of a congressman under the constitution was first fixed at six dollars per day for the time actually in session, on an average about 120 days each session, or seven hundred and twenty dollars per year, or less than one thirtieth of the salary of the President. Congress have legislated upon their own salaries from time to time since, until finally it reaches \$5,000 per annum, or one fifth that of the President, before the salary of the latter was increased. No one having a knowledge of the cost of living in the capital will contend that the present salary of congressmen is too high, unless it be the intention to make the office one entirely of honor, when the salary should be abolished, which is a proposition repugnant to our republican ideas or institutions. I do not believe that the citizens of the republic desire their public servants to serve them without a fair compensation for their services. Twenty-five thousand dollars does not defray the expenses of the Executive for one year, or has not in my experience. It is now one fifth in value what it was when fixed by the constitution, in supporting demands and wants; and having no personal

interest in this matter, I have felt myself free to return this bill to the House in which it originated, with my objections, believing that in doing so I shall meet the wishes or judgment of a great majority of those who indirectly pay all the salaries and all other expenses of the Government.

(Signed) "U. S. GRANT, Executive Mansion, April 18th, 1875."

Ex-Secretary Belknap, accompanied by his counsel, Carpenter, Black and Blair, entered the Senate chamber at 12:25, and at 12:30 the Senate suspended the consideration of legislative business to resume the impeachment trial, and the secretary of the Senate was directed to notify the managers that the Senate was ready to proceed with the trial. The managers shortly after arrived and Lord, on behalf of the board, sent to the secretary's desk and had read the answer adopted by the House to the plea of Belknap, to the effect that at the time of the commission of the acts charged against said Belknap, he was an officer of the U. S., and that he was such officer until after the House of Representatives, by its proper committee, had completed the investigation into the charges against him, and were preparing for his impeachment, a fact that was known to him when he resigned.

Carpenter, of the counsel for the accused, asked for a copy of the replication of the House of Representatives, and for time until Monday next to answer the same.

Edmunds submitted an order that the counsel file his answer to the replication by the 24th instant, and that the managers file their rejoinder by the 25th, and that the trial proceed on the 27th inst., which was agreed to after some discussion, and on motion of Edmunds it was ordered that the Senate, sitting as a court of impeachment, adjourn until the 25th inst. at 12:30 p. m.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 17.—Lynde's substitute was proposed, but was violently opposed by Tucker, who claimed that a recusant witness should remain in custody of the House.

The debate was further continued by Jones, against the resolutions of the judiciary committee; and by Mr. Lord and Lawrence, and Hurd, of Ohio, in favor of the substitute offered by Lynde, directing the Sergeant-at-Arms to make a return to the writ, and to produce Kilbourn before the court. Adopted, yeas 165, nays 75. The great body of the republican members and nearly half of the democratic members voted for the substitute.

Randall offered a resolution, that in the further proceedings in the impeachment case, the House shall appear before the Senate only by its managers; adopted.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The House took up the report of the election committee, on the Alabama contested election case of Bromberg against Harrison; the report was unanimously against the claim of the contestant Bromberg, declaring the sitting member, Harrison, entitled to a seat.

WASHINGTON, 19.—Lord, chairman of the managers of impeachment, reported the replication proposed to be made to the plea of jurisdiction, filed on behalf of Belknap; the replication was adopted by the House, and was ordered to be communicated to the Senate.

The sergeant-at-arms made a report to the House, that he had obeyed the writ of habeas corpus in the Hallet Kilbourne case, and that the body of Kilbourne had been ordered by Judge Carter to the custody of the Marshal.

AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 17.—Judge Spier, in a special term of the Supreme Court, to-day, and on motion of counsel for Rufus Hatch, granted an injunction against Sidney Dillon and Jay Gould, to prevent them from attempting, in any way, to dissolve the Pacific Mail S. S. Company.

Sargent's bill granting a site for the Lick Astronomical Observatory, on Mount Hamilton, Santa Clara County, was reported favorably by Booth from the Senate public lands committee, with an amendment providing merely that the land shall revert to the U. S. if used for any other purpose.

The World's Washington special says the testimony before the com-

mittee on expenditures in the Interior Department disclosed a condition of affairs in the Government Lunatic Asylum here, which fairly curdled the blood of those who heard it. Many cells have only a bundle of straw for the inmates to lie upon, which is shaken up daily like the straw in a stable. One of the patient's bed became so fetid that it had to be carted away. In some cases the bones of the patients had literally worn through the flesh; many were covered with vermin and filth, and with bruises from abuse. It is believed that several cases of death have been hastened by violence.

The printing office investigation shows a probability that Clapp has cheated the Government; either that, or that the workmen received the refuse gold leaf as perquisites. An examination by experts shows \$10,000 deficiency in this particular alone.

The defeat of the committee on judiciary on the Kilbourn case is very sensibly felt. Seventy-three democrats voted favorably and 73 against. The bill prepared by Tucker to transfer the habeas corpus of anything to the supreme court in future, will undoubtedly pass, as there is much lack of confidence in the district courts.

Anna Bellocca made her debut at the Academy last night, in the "Barber of Seville;" she was well received.

Madame Bonaparte, of Baltimore, is recovering; she is over 90.

The Times' Washington special says, of the case of Belknap, if the Senate should take jurisdiction, it is doubtful if the witnesses can begin to testify before the second week in May.

A great effort is making by the citizens of St. Louis to secure the pardon of Col. Maguire, on the ground that he committed only a technical violation of his duty. Grant, after hearing the delegation to-day, held out strong hopes.

Henry Dailey, Jr., the well-known lawyer, was arraigned in Brooklyn yesterday, for perjury; Dailey denounces the complaint as malicious. He studied with O'Connor, and is a large real estate owner.

Justice Dailey has permanently enjoined the elevated railway from trespassing on the other side of Greenwich Street; he decides that the original law was unconstitutional.

Owen Marlowe, the eminent English actor, is dying at Boston.

Victoria Woodhull failed to lecture at Boston last evening; she could not hire a hall.

Cable dispatches, special and general, show that a warlike feeling is again prominent.

The Herald's Washington special shows that the report that Grant has lost confidence in Babcock is false, and points to the fact that Babcock still holds the position of Superintendent of Public Buildings and is the chief engineer of the aqueduct.

Belknap's friends are collecting material against Custer, to have him tried by a court martial at St. Paul. It is charged that Custer wore falsely before Clymer's committee; he is also accused of originating the charges against Merrill. Custer declares his innocence.

The Tribune's Washington special says that Belknap's attendance at the impeachment trial excited remark, and the effect was considered good, so his counsel will exhibit him every day; one or two of the managers shook hands with him, but no senator spoke to him.

The Tribune's correspondent writes, denying that there are 200,000 Chinese in America, whereof 75,000 are in San Francisco, as stated in a recent meeting at San Francisco presided over by the Governor; he declares that the figures are grossly exaggerated. He says there are only two ways to stop Chinese immigration—mob violence, or an act of Congress.

PITTSBURG, 17.—The national labor convention, this afternoon, was fully attended. The object of the convention was stated to be to perfect the harmony of interests of the laboring man, as opposed to the massing of capital and influence by the employers. The committee on permanent organization reported the following as permanent officers—President, Jno. M. Davis, with a long list of Vice-Presidents and other officers; the report was amended in one or two instances and adopted. President Davis took the chair, and made a brief address of thanks.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., 17.—The sub-committee of the House navy

committee investigating the navy yard transactions met to-day, and re-examined E. G. Collett, naval constructor Hartt, Major Boyd, of Pennock & Co's rolling mills at Coatesville, and a man named Parkhurst, of John Roache's ship yard at Chester. During the examination several pieces of plaster from the ceiling of the room fell upon Chairman Whitehorn, and upon an examination being made it was found that an enterprising reporter had secured a room in the hotel immediately above the committee room, and he had bored a hole through the floor and ceiling, and had inserted a tube under the plaster centre piece around the chandelier, and was taking down in short hand the testimony of the witnesses. When caught by the proprietor he was taken before the committee, who laughed heartily, and considered it one of the best things of the season. The smart journalist, however, was sworn not to reveal what he had heard, and was allowed to depart.

St. Louis, 17.—The tow boat Dictator, belonging to Huse, Loomis & Co., ice dealers, of this city, collided with a bridge at Hannibal, Mo., at eight o'clock this a. m., and was completely wrecked. Harry Young, the clerk, and eight others of the crew, names not reported, were drowned.

The Republican's special from Hannibal, referring to the wreck of the tow boat Dictator, says the boat struck the bridge at half past three o'clock; she was going up stream, and as she emerged from the upper end of the draw she was swung round by the current, and struck the pier amidships, where she hung about three minutes, when she careened, parted in the middle and went down, but in doing so her barge was raised up, and the shore span of the bridge was lifted from the pier and thrown into the river. The following are the names of the lost—Pat Carey, Dick Cranz, and Frank Schureman, firemen; Charles Brown and Zeiger, deck hands; Wm. Foster, second engineer; Harry Young, clerk; and the cook, cabin boy and jumper on the barge, names unknown. The boat is a total loss.

SAN FRANCISCO, 17.—The race horse Golden Gate has been sold to James Ainsworth.

The Chronicle, this morning, in a three-column sensational article, charges Admiral Rodgers, president of the Spaulding court-martial, with being open to the same charges as those against Spaulding, in permitting Ellis T. Armstrong, foreman of the machinists' yards and docks at Mare Island, to absent himself from duty the greater portion of the time, and drawing pay all the time, in violation of the regulations; that he is also interested in the result of the trial, as all Spaulding's orders and vouchers passed through his hands for approval; also, that on the strength of an order from the Navy Department, authorizing an expenditure of ten thousand dollars for the rebuilding of the steamer Monterey, with implied consent to devote the sum to the rebuilding of the yard schooner Joe Smith, the pleasure yacht Freda was built at a cost of forty-five thousand dollars, and that nothing was done to the Monterey or Joe Smith; that the steam launch Nellie was also built without the authority of the Department and no report of the cost was forwarded; the cost was about twenty-five thousand dollars, and was charged to work on the steamer Mohican and other objects. The article also states that Judge Advocate Hagner has received several telegraphic orders from Washington to allow no politics to be brought into the case, and that Hagner was sent here to convict Spaulding and shelter certain high officials who are interested in the matter; also that extensive fraud exists in the contract with the Vallejo water works to supply the navy yard with water, in which W. J. Wright, postmaster at Vallejo, is largely interested, and plainly intimates that Senator Sargent is at the bottom of the whole system of corruption in naval and Treasury affairs on the coast.

By the British steamer Crocus from Shanghai, March 16, Hong Kong, March 13, we learn that English divers are now at work on the wreck of the Pacific Mail steamship Japan. Fletcher's buildings, at Hong Kong, were destroyed by fire March 12th. A disastrous epidemic prevails near Soochow; the disease is imperfectly known, and death is almost immediate after several villages have been

depopulated. Contributions to the Philadelphia Exposition continue to be dispatched from various parts. Two formidable insurrections are now disturbing the peace of China, one in Kivorying, which has gained great strength, the rebels having been joined by the Imperial troops sent to quell them; several interior cities have been taken, and are now held by this body. The second is in Shansi, the importance of which may be estimated by the fact that the Viceroy of Kansu is endeavoring to negotiate a loan of ten million taels expressly to pay the troops and to purchase arms and material to subdue it, the payment of the loan to be secured by the hypothecation of the customs of the ports on the Yangtzi river. Grosvenor and party arrived on the frontier of Yunnan, February 3rd, and the investigation of the Margary case by Ly Han Chang is proceeding in Yunnan. The difficulties at Macao have been settled by the Chinese yielding and abandoning possession; they were intimidated by the threats of the Portuguese. The intention was to establish a native custom house on Patera Island, near Macao, but the Portuguese authorities declared their purpose to resist by force the garrison forts, and to occupy the disputed island with a large body of troops. In consequence of these energetic preparations the Chinese stopped proceedings, notwithstanding the well-known fact that no part of the territory held by the Portuguese in China was ever ceded to them, and is occupied in defiance of China, of which it is as much a part as any other place in the Empire. The attempt to establish a railway between Shanghai and Wu Sung, a distance of a few miles only, was vehemently opposed by the Chinese authorities, and the work has been temporarily suspended. The enterprise was projected by foreigners, to avoid the difficulties of navigating the river as far up as Shanghai, Wusung being more easily accessible.

Yokohama, Mar. 25.—San Jo Saneyosi, the prime minister, Or Daijo Daijin, of Japan, is preparing to visit America and Europe; his purpose is not yet divulged. A military station is to be established at the Loo Choo Island at a cost of eighty-five thousand dollars. There was a reception and banquet by the Mikado, March 24, to celebrate the settlement of the Korean question; all the foreign ministers were invited. A fire in Yedo, Mar. 19, destroyed two hundred houses; two firemen were killed and several wounded. The German frigate Hertha had sailed from Yokohama to join the squadron destined to enforce the claims of Germany against China in the case of the Anna. There was a violent hurricane, March 14, houses in Yokohama and Yedo were blown down, and ships in the harbor capsized and sunk; only one foreign vessel was lost, the British bark Mary Jane. The British man-of-war Sylvia had sailed for Corea, with the intention of imitating Japanese proceedings, in hopes of similar success. The competition between the Japanese steamship line to Shanghai, and the Peninsula and Oriental Company continues energetic; the Japanese have reduced their fares to the rate of one dollar for one hundred miles, of freights one dollar per ton for one thousand miles; the government indirectly supports the native ships in this struggle, by compelling Japanese travelers in foreign bottoms to procure special permits; the foreign ministers protest, and the result is a fine diplomatic as well as mercantile quarrel. Stringent rules for preventing the spread of the cattle pestilence have been circulated and enforced in all parts of the Empire.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., 17.—A letter from Bolivar Co., Miss., says that a levee broke in front of Colonel Wade's plantation on Friday evening, about a mile below the Black Ridge crevasse; the water rushed through with frightful velocity, and it was with difficulty Mrs. Wade and her daughter were rescued. The whole of this alluvial region is being submerged. The following plantations are already inundated—W. G. Meyer's, Meyer's & Pollock's, L. W. Wade, J. G. Yorger, Morgan, Easter, Greene Clay, Field Miller, Maj. Edmonds, and part of Content Place. The water is pouring into the Williams Bayou and Deer Creeks, and will overflow many valuable places, including Col. Moore's and the Hedge place. The water is now running over Egyptian Ridge, which never occurred before.