

make an active open fight for the republican nomination. Gen. Albright, of Pennsylvania, says he knows that 20 of the 58 delegates from Pennsylvania will not respect the unit rule adopted at the Harrisburg convention, and indignation meetings are being held throughout Pennsylvania, protesting against that rule and instructing the Blaine delegates to vote for Blaine.

WASHINGTON, 13.—Senator Hill, of Colorado, has been authorized to submit to the Senate, in behalf of the public lands committee, a very interesting report which he has prepared in advocacy of the passage of his bill looking to the reclamation of arid public lands by means of artesian wells.

The report begins by stating that 800,000,000 acres of lands are embraced in the arid regions of the United States; that not one per cent of this territory has been sold by the United States, and that it must remain unsold for years to come, unless some means are found to supply it with water. After deducting from this aggregate the number of acres of land ascertained from government surveys and other reliable data, to be unfit for agriculture, even if water were supplied to them, because of their being broken and mountainous, destitute of soil, covered with lava deposits, or consisting of barren drifting sand; there remain, says the report, 500,000,000 acres of land of the great plains and valleys on a part of which valuable crops could be raised, if water could be obtained for irrigation. The report continues: Many thousands acres have already been reclaimed by utilizing the waters of rivers and streams and spreading them over the land during the period of the growth of the crops, but owing to the limited supply of water, which can be made available from these sources, under the most favorable conditions, probably not more than 3 per cent. of the 500,000,000 acres can be reclaimed. What use can be made of 485,000,000 remaining acres? They are not, it is true, entirely valueless, they are now and will be hereafter used still more for pasturage lands; but they can never, to any great extent, be sold for this purpose. The growth of grass is so scanty that it requires from 15 to 25 acres for the support of each head of cattle, and many thousands of acres are situated from 100 to 150 miles from living water, and are thus unavailable even for pasturage. But little will ever be realized by the Government from the sale of these lands until it is demonstrated that water can be supplied by artesian wells. In the State of Colorado alone, on the great plains east of the Rocky Mountains, are 40,000,000 acres of land. Much of it will produce, if irrigated, 25 to 30 bushels of wheat per acre. It is in view of the facts which have been given that Congress will be asked to appropriate \$50,000 for boring artesian wells. Private enterprise will not undertake the work, which is of an experimental character, as the land is all owned by the Government; but let it be demonstrated that water can be supplied in this way and citizens will purchase the land of Government and wells will be bored by individuals and corporations, and in time, vast tracts of land will thereby be reclaimed.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., 13.—A cyclone accompanied by lightning, thunder and heavy rain, passed over the city at midnight. The wind blew at the rate of 40 miles an hour. The spires of the First Colored Baptist, St. John's colored and St. Paul's colored Churches were blown down, also the inside brick wall of the new Custom House. The roof of Rea & Sons' elevator containing 20,000 bushels of grain was swept off. The third story of the Edgfield Manufacturing Company was blown away. The roofs of a large number of private residences were blown off. The damage done up to this hour cannot possibly be estimated.

The principal losses sustained by the storm of last night were as follows: Edgfield and Nashville Manufacturing Co., \$20,000; Custom House, \$10,000; First colored Baptist Church, \$8,000; St. Paul's, \$20,000. The entire loss is estimated at \$74,000.

Louisville, 13.—At 5.30 p. m. today, the wind averaged a velocity of 42 miles an hour, blowing from the southwest. Within the last six hours the temperature fell 21 degrees, at 3 p. m. 56 and at 9 o'clock 34. Total rainfall for the day 1.80 inches, for 48 hours 3.02 inches. No damage is reported worthy of mention. At Frankfort, Ky., the river is rising at the rate of a foot an hour. The lower end of the city is flooded, and before morning the water will be in the State house yard. The rise was

never known to be so sudden. The loss of logs, etc., in the river will be very great. Reports to the Louisville Courier-Journal from the interior, are now to the effect that considerable damage has been done to outhouses and bridges.

Cincinnati, 13.—It has rained almost incessantly since 5 o'clock yesterday evening, part of the time heavily. The Ohio River is rising rapidly along the whole length. The snow melted by the warm rain at the headwaters of the Ohio, will cause an unusual rise there, and high water may be expected in a very short time. The rain-fall here from the time of beginning yesterday till 10.30 to-night is reported by the signal service observer to be 2.800 inches.

NEW YORK, 14.—The Herald names as a committee to distribute its Irish relief fund, Col. King Harmon, M. P.; Mr. Shaw, M. P.; Prof. Baldwin, Cardinal McCloskey, and Mr. Parnell. The Cardinal at first declined to serve, but has since reconsidered his declination and now consents. Parnell has also declined, but the Herald hopes he will reconsider his decision, and repeats its request that he will act as one of the committee, notwithstanding his strange course towards the paper. An editorial upon the subject in this morning's Herald concludes: "We offer Mr. Parnell such a committee as he thinks desirable, naming himself as a member of it. If he again declines, the verdict of the American public will be that Parnell's object is not relief for his starving countrymen, but selfish agitation for his own political and personal aggrandizement; that he is not only an obstructionist in his own country, but an obstructionist to charity here. If he deliberately puts himself in this position, the American people will think it about time he had his farce. We suppose that all sensible Irishmen will endorse this conclusion."

SAN FRANCISCO, 13.—The Workmen met again to-day and visited the offices of some minor manufacturing corporations, and were promised replies to-morrow. President Stanford, of the Central Pacific, to-day addressed a letter to the committee stating in substance that there were only seven Chinamen in the employ of the company in the city; that the company was retaining on duty many white men whose services were not really required, because they did not wish to discharge old employees; that the company would respect the laws as construed by the courts, and in the management of its business would be governed under the laws entirely by considerations of what it deems its wisest policy. An answer was also received from President Selby, of the smelting works, who bluntly said he considered the law unconstitutional and would not obey it until the United States bade him submit.

The Assembly to-day passed a bill to empower the clause of the constitution at issue by a vote of 73 to 2, and the governor promptly signed it. A dispatch announcing the governor's action was read at the Sand Lots during the meeting and greeted with prolonged cheers for the bill and the new governor. The Workmen will again parade to-morrow. Many members of the Legislature voted for the bill merely for the purpose of bringing about some settlement of the matter, as it will doubtless come before the courts at an early day.

FT. ROBINSON, 14.—A courier from the Spotted Tail Agency reports the savages in consternation over the ravages of the small pox. None have been known to recover; many die in a few hours after stricken.

COLUMBIA, 14.—A caucus defeated the registration law project, but the special order of the House this morning is the question of calling a constitutional convention. If successful the hotheads will embody the educational disqualifications and rob the negroes of suffrage.

CHICAGO, 14.—The Times Washington special says: A member of the cabinet says the President, in reply to the resolution of the House calling for information in regard to the inter-oceanic canal schemes, will send a message strongly saturated with the Monroe doctrine, saying no company of foreigners should be allowed to construct a canal across the Isthmus unless under the control of this government. We already have a railroad across the continent. It is foreigners who are compelled to go around the Horn to trade with the Pacific.

NEW YORK, 14.—The Times says: Sometime ago the Times mentioned the existence of a scheme to found a mining stock exchange in this city, independent of

the concern in New Street and on a much more extensive scale. The projectors are principally California men, and it is claimed the members of the San Francisco board, who, having become disgusted with the trammels placed upon speculative dealings in that city by the recently adopted Kearney constitution, have decided to transfer the centre of the mining stock business of the country to New York City. As an evidence of the effect of the new order of things in California, one of these gentlemen assured the writer yesterday that the price of seats in the San Francisco board had declined within the past year from \$35,000 to \$6,000, the latter being the present quotation.

A banking company under the title of the "United States Trust Company," has been organized and is now established. Its capital is \$500,000. Milton S. Latham is shortly to leave San Francisco for the east with a view to accepting the presidency. Two other members of the San Francisco board are already on their way here to become respectively secretary of the company and caller of the new board. The design of the trust company is to lend money on good mining stocks the same as the city banks now lend on railroad and government securities as collateral. The stock board is to be patterned on that of San Francisco. The membership is limited to 500. The writer was shown 250 applications for membership which have thus far been received, mainly from San Francisco men. The date of the opening of the exchange has not yet been fixed.

The weather is mild and sloppy. It is raining, with a prospect of continuing throughout the day.

The visible supply of wheat is 29,594,000 bushels, a reduction during the week of 491,000. The visible supply of corn 14,288,000, an increase during the week of 1,223,000.

The World's Washington special on Acklen's situation says: One member of the committee said to-day, "Don't ask me what the report will be. The facts are bad enough." Another member said, "We shall probably be compelled to report that Acklen is guilty as indicted by the newspapers, and let the House take such action as it may deem proper."

The Sun says of the Indian Territory trespassers: Has not the conduct of some of Hayes' own subordinates given color to the reports that trespass on Indian territory would be winked at? We find Indian Commissioner Hayt recommending in the strongest terms a reduction of the territory owned by the Utes, and Carl Schurz pushing the scheme of taking away the lands which the Indian tribes hold in common, and giving them instead, individual farms of a size whose aggregate will be far less than their present possessions. We find congressional committees providing for opening Indian territory to settlement by whites, and railroad interests backing up these schemes. No wonder that squatters, seeing at Washington this spirit of encroachment, try to anticipate matters.

The Wilmington, Del., Republican says: It has always maintained there was at least a republican majority of 2,000 in that State if a fair vote could be had, and recent developments have led it to the conclusion that there is really a greater majority than this, but there are many impediments yet in the way of the polling of a full republican vote of the State.

The Tribune shows by letters received that the real strength of the republican convention in Pennsylvania was largely for Blaine and not for Grant.

The Herald says: The acquisition of "coaling stations" for the United States navy at Golfo Dulce, on the Pacific, and at Chiriqui lagoon, on the Caribbean Sea, may prove but the entering wedge of a new foreign policy of transcendent importance. It is just possible, as more than one explorer has heretofore asserted, that the Chiriqui route may prove best for the canal, and the magnificent harbor add largely to its feasibility.

WASHINGTON, 14.—Notwithstanding the general impression that the substitute for the bill adopted yesterday by a majority of the House committee on commerce, was entirely acceptable to the railroad companies, if not directly procured by their influence, it is asserted that the ninth section of the bill is extremely objectionable to them, and that on account of its incorporation in the measure, they will oppose the whole bill in the House unless it be eliminated or materially modified. The

objection to it is that they are not willing to entrust the men appointed by the President, who will form a controlling majority of the proposed board of commissioners with absolute power to determine what rates of toll are fair and reasonable.

The balance of trade has comparatively for so long a time been in our favor that the popular impression has been created that it is destined to remain so. Business men, however, have anticipated a return of the period when the balance of trade would shift and the outflow of specie from this country would recommence. This has been the view of the Treasury Department, and while there has been no apprehension felt as to the ability to maintain specie payment, it has been seen that over confidence might have the effect to seriously check the era of prosperity upon which the country has entered. From returns received at the Department it is shown that the imports for the last month at New York were greater than ever before, in the same month of any year, reaching in value over \$40,000,000. New York does about two-thirds of the import business of the country, and about one-half the exports. It is calculated from the figures for the month of January that the balance of trade against the United States for the last month was not less than \$10,000,000, and it is thought that this balance will increase rather than diminish. Should this be the case, its effect will very soon be felt in every department of business. The character of the imports shows that our people are again running into the extravagancies and indulgence in luxuries which pertained to the war era.

The sub-committee of the House elections committee, in the Donnelly-Washburne (Minnesota) case, has decided to make no written report, but that each member should orally state his views to the full committee. The presumption seems to be well founded that the majority report will favor Donnelly.

CHICAGO, 14.—The Blaine movement will soon be actively begun. A club will be organized here in a day or two for the purpose of forming a nucleus for the campaign. Blaine has himself gone to New York and it is not improbable his visit there will have the effect to prevent the fulfillment of Conkling's prediction that the delegation will be instructed for Grant. Blaine's friends here understand the object of his visit to New York is to ascertain how formidable the Grant movement is; whether it would be practicable to undertake to interfere with the working of the Conkling machine. Each day discloses new facts which make it seem more certain that Illinois is to be considered the pivotal State in the Blaine campaign. The first open demonstration for Blaine in Illinois will be made at a meeting of the State Central Committee at Chicago, Feb. 25th. Gentlemen very familiar with the working of the committee expect fully 1,000 Blaine men will be in Chicago at that time. The purpose of Blaine's friends is to have some skilled speakers there to advocate Blaine's cause.

The Journal's Washington special says: Blaine in an interview says that under no circumstances will he allow his name to be used as a candidate for the Vice-Presidency in connection with General Grant or anybody else. He will not accept that nomination if he fails to get the first place, preferring to remain in active life in the Senate.

NEW YORK, 14.—The Produce Exchange Committee on trade has been considering the new cable rules in regard to code messages, have submitted an exhaustive report which was adopted. It concludes with the following resolution:

Resolved, That the New York Produce Exchange strongly condemns the arbitrary and oppressive action of European Governments and private companies having control of our cable connection in establishing new and unnecessary rules for the government of code correspondence thereby inflicting great hardship and expense on the commerce of the world, and that this Exchange also blame the Anglo-American Telegraph Company for the delay in the promulgation of their new rules, whereby the said injuries have been aggravated.

The John Sherman Club was organized to-night by merchants, with Samuel A. Haines as president. The resolutions declare he has maintained public faith and lifted a high standard of national honor; he knows the resources of the country and its needs, and with him for president we know that the whole influence and power of the Executive office

would be wielded to enforce the law, to maintain the liberty and rights of all men, white and black, throughout the length and breadth of the land; to maintain resumption; to embody into the law sound financial and economic measures; to nurture and increase our manufactures and our commerce, and build on the rock of sound finance all business interests of the country.

Vessels now arriving bring terrible stories of the storm on the Atlantic, February 1st. When the Guion steamship Wyoming arrived yesterday, two seamen were sent to the hospital with broken legs. The anchor steamer Devonia sent one man in the same condition. The Wyoming reports the storm came up in the afternoon so suddenly, that before the summons of all hands on deck could be obeyed, the storm struck the vessel and the entire deck was swept. The watch of eight men were disabled. Other vessels bring similar reports of exceedingly heavy weather.

ST. LOUIS, 14.—At an adjourned meeting of the merchants at the Lindell Hotel, to-night, it was decided to organize a company with a capital stock of \$50,000 and establish a commercial agency at the City of Mexico for the transaction of legitimate business by sample, buy and sell for mines, minerals, etc., and do such other business as promised profitable results. A committee was appointed to effect an organization of the company and put the enterprise into working order as speedily as possible.

CHICAGO, 16.—The Tribune's Washington special says: The anti-Tilden democrats are taking fright at the new movement they think they have discovered on the part of Tilden to capture the democratic nomination. The democrats are authorized for the statement that Tilden has "fixed" a formidable list of State delegations, embracing New York, all the New England States except possibly Massachusetts; Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Colorado, Nevada, and California, together with Kentucky, Georgia, Florida, and North Carolina. These States are claimed as certain to instruct for Tilden, and in addition to them, New Jersey, Maryland, Texas and Illinois are represented as being debatable ground between the various other candidates, with Tilden as second choice of all. According to the same authority the programme seems to be to secure a small majority of instructed delegates, depending on the custom of democrat conventions of late years, which has been to concede the nomination to the majority candidate, to overcome the operation of a two-thirds rule, or in the event of an evident disposition to depart from that custom, to enforce a rule literally to abrogate it altogether.

The Tribune's Columbus, Ohio, special intimates that Blaine is making strong headway there against Sherman, and that his meeting there on Thursday, bids fair to eclipse Sherman's of last week, that Blaine's friends are augmenting their own number daily from Sherman's ranks; and now includes the principal workers at the capital city of Sherman's State.

NEW YORK, 16.—A banquet in honor of Senator Jones, of Nevada, at Delmonicos, on Saturday evening was given by his friend and late colleague, ex-Senator Dorsey, of Arkansas, and brought together in social conversation the most distinguished party of gentlemen and statesmen that has ever been gathered in this city. The large ball room at Delmonicos was decorated in the most elaborate manner, and was converted for a time into a mimic mining camp, situated in the midst of a flowering garden. Among the decorations in confectionary and jellies, were representations of chutes used in placer mining, and mimic drift in the quartz mine with Lilliputian miners welding Lilliputian picks, miniature quartz mills for crushing ore, and several other devices, which were familiar to mining men in the company, but which proved so many riddles to the rest of the guests.

The Tribune, whose editor was among the guests, publishes the names of 54 invited, of whom the following 14 were absent: Conkling, Allison and Logan, Gov. Cornell, Wm. B. Woodin, J. B. Chaffee, Amos Townsend, S. B. Elkins, Hugh Hastings, W. E. Chandler, T. C. Platt, Gen. Arthur, E. M. Madden and Congressman Morton. The Tribune adds: There were no speeches whatever. So far was it from a political dinner that no toasts were given and no healths pledged.