

## BY TELEGRAPH.

## AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 2.—The *World's* Washington special says: Conkling's committee of investigation into the Mexican border troubles met, to-day, and heard the testimony of Zamacona, who is described by Conkling as a "distinguished lawyer and member of the Mexican senate." Zamacona, who is endeavoring to secure the recognition of Diaz' government by the United States, told the story of the border troubles from a Mexican point of view, claiming that the Texans had caused outrages and were responsible for a majority of the crimes which have made life and property unsafe between Reus and the Rio Grande. The committee decided that it will not visit the border to prosecute its investigations.

An ingenious robbery was perpetrated to-day, occasioning the loss of perhaps \$100,000 to the Young estate. A man called at the office of J. H. Young, Nassau Street, about noon, and asked to see the directory. He then went out. Mr. Young went to lunch and the stranger returned and said to the bookkeeper that a man in a carriage at the door desired to see him. The bookkeeper went down stairs after locking the door and the stranger forced Mr. Young's door and stole 50 Alabama bonds of \$1,000, and a package of securities, including certificates of stock in the name of J. H. Young. Detectives were placed on the case, but up to a late hour to-night no trace of the thief or property could be found.

The proposition by William Wheeler Hubbell, of Philadelphia, for the adoption of his patented combination metal, called goldoid, as the standard coin metal of the United States, and in behalf of which Senator Wallace introduced a bill recently, has made a very favorable impression on a number of prominent congressmen. Among them is Alexander H. Stephens, chairman of the House committee on coinage, weights and measures, who yesterday requested the director of the mint to have dies prepared to strike off some specimens of the proposed goldoid dollars. Dr. Linderman has given the necessary directions to the superintendent of the Philadelphia mint, and specimens are expected shortly. It is proposed that the goldoid dollar shall consist of 258 grains, to be proportioned, omitting the small fractions, as follows: silver, 222 grains; copper, 25 grains; and gold 9 grains. At the present rates, its gold value would be a little over 94 cents. The great advantages claimed for this coin are its small and convenient bulk, its greater resistance to abrasion, and its tendency to remain in this country on account of the difficulty of resolving it into its constitutional elements.

BOSTON, 2.—The wool market remains without decided change, and as usual is rather quiet for the closing week of the year. Holders are not disposed to sell unless at full, current rates, and it is believed that manufacturers will operate more fully after the commencement of the new year. Sales include Ohio and Pennsylvania at 42 @ 46 for medium, x and xx 40 @ 42. Wisconsin, Michigan and unwashed fleeces at previous prices. Superior and x-pulled wools are in fair demand, and choice and desirable lots are scarce; sales at 35 @ 45, and some small lots of choice at 46 @ 47. California wool continues in steady demand, selling at 15 @ 27 for fall, and 20 @ 32 for spring.

NASHVILLE, 2.—A frightened team backed a wagon containing Mrs. Morris Goodlac and four children off the bridge into the Obion River, yesterday, resulting in the drowning of the four children.

YPSILANTI, Mich., 2.—A fire, this morning, destroyed Crossman's drug store, Sampson's hardware store, the Farmers' and Mechanics' store, Shier and Davis' grocery and several small shops. Loss on the buildings and stock, \$40,000, mostly insured. The fire originated in Crossman's drug store.

CHICAGO, 2.—The *Inter-Ocean's* Marquette, Mich., special says: While a Chicago and Northwestern box car was being loaded with nitro-glycerine at the Jackson mine, near Negaunce, at 10 this morning, the mass exploded, instantly killing seven men and demolishing the car. The locomotive was lifted into the air, thrown fifty feet, and landed in a confused heap of wood

and iron. Of the killed, S. A. Wheeler and son, Walter and Ira Hinkley were employed at the nitro-glycerine works, Hinkley being superintendent. The bodies of these three were blown to atoms, no piece larger than two pounds being discoverable. The other four were railway employes and were in the cab of the engine when the explosion came. Their blackened and mangled remains were found there with the flesh stripped from their faces and their limbs and bones broken. Their names are Wm. Myers, Wm. Shellman, Charles Rueler and Jerry Folley. Oshpeming, three miles away, plainly felt the shock. The damage in Negaunce was probably \$2,500. Some persons there are reported to be seriously injured by the concussion.

WASHINGTON, 2.—A new Pacific railroad bill will be presented as soon as Congress re-assembles. The eastern terminus is to be at Memphis, thereby forming connections with present railroad facilities to all points north, east and southwesterly. The proposed railroad will pass Lake City to Jefferson, Texas, thence by the International and Great Northern railroad to San Antonio, and thence in a northwesterly direction to El Paso del Norte, to connect with any roads to the Pacific Ocean now or hereafter to be built, thus affording communication with the various military posts on those lines and in the valley of the Rio Grande. The projectors of the road ask for \$13,000,000 in all, to be refunded as rapidly as the money may be earned by the transportation of mails and government supplies.

Senator Patterson had a relapse, last night, and his physicians remained with him until after midnight. Early this morning he had another attack, and during the day he has been growing worse. Although he is resting a little easier, to-night, he still lies in a critical condition.

The commissioner of internal revenue has received the following letter:

United States Revenue Department, Collector's Office, Spartansburg, S. C., Dec. 23th.

SIR—On yesterday, Moore, Keane and Cummings, special deputy collectors, and Wm. Durham, special deputy marshal, went on a tour of inspection through Union County, and to-day, at the residence of Jasper Gibbs, a trial justice, they arrested a peddler and his driver for selling tobacco improperly stamped, and confiscated the wagon, team, tobacco and stamps. The officer succeeded in handcuffing the prisoners and returned towards Spartansburg. When they had proceeded about four miles and were at West's store, they came suddenly upon a rifle company, who were armed with Winchester and pistols, and were partly mounted. There were about 200 men, and about 25 of them were uniformed. They shouted, "Release him! release him!" and surrounded the United States officers, and a long wrangle ensued, in which the officers endeavored to retain their prisoners and captured property, but were compelled by threats and various demonstrations to remove the handcuffs and release the prisoners, property and stamps. Jasper Gibbs, the trial justice, and B. A. Gregory, his constable, and the captain of the company, seemed the principal persons in authority and they demanded the release and restoration of the property and prisoners. Gregory, by direction of Gibbs, searched the wagon of the revenue officers for whiskey and threatened to send them to jail. It was only by a total surrender of the revenue officers that bloodshed was avoided. There is not a force here sufficient to effect the arrest of persons concerned in this outrage, and I respectfully suggest that measures be taken to master a force for that purpose. The offenders are persons of means and influence, and I have no doubt will make a determined resistance to arrest, backed as they are by a community hostile to the revenue laws of the United States.

Very respectfully,  
(Signed) G. P. KIRKLAND,  
Deputy Collector.

The commissioner of internal revenue will have a conference with the Secretary of the Treasury with regard to this outrage. The determination is to use every possible effort to bring the offenders to justice and have the laws thoroughly vindicated.

The following comparative statement of the condition of the Treasury, on January 1, 1877 and January 1, 1878, was issued from the Treasury to-day:

	BALANCES.	
	1877	1878
Currency,	\$9,483,860	\$ 5,493,844
Specie fund for redemption fractional currency,		10,000,000
Special deposits legal tender for redemption certificates of deposit,	31,000,000	32,830,000
Coin,	96,517,418	139,518,405
Coin certificates,	47,280,000	33,424,900

Coin, less coin certificates,	49,237,418	106,093,505
Outstanding called bonds,	11,021,900	20,745,300
Other outstanding coin liabilities,	9,598,720	5,907,346
Outstanding legal tenders,	366,055,084	349,943,776
Outstanding fractional currency,	26,318,206	17,764,108
Outstanding silver coin,	25,840,167	38,056,830
Total debt less cash in Treasury,	2,092,921,241	2,045,955,442
Increase of debt for December,	3,585,142	
Decrease,		71,633
Reduction of debt since July 1,	6,518,108	14,202,780
Market value of gold,	1.07	1.02 87
Imports 12 months ending Nov. 30	441,784,784	482,150,573
Exports 12 months ending Nov. 30	575,651,088	622,545,293

WEST OSGOOD, Ont., 3.—Jas. McMullen, of this place, brutally killed his wife, last night, with a club. McMullen is said to be partially insane.

CHICAGO, 3.—The *Times'* London special says: The most disquieting rumors prevail as to the armistice about to be concluded directly between Turkey and Russia, and which the Porte will submit to under the inspiration of the English prime minister.

Surgeon Robert Murray, who has, until recently, held the position of medical purveyor at San Francisco, has been appointed medical director of the military division of the Missouri, and is attached to the staff of the Lieutenant General.

Dispatches state that the silver meeting at Bloomington, Ills., last night, was inspired by Senator Davis, who is now at home, but who neither participated nor attended, although he authorized a friend who spoke, to say that he was heartily for remonetization, and that he remained away from the meeting lest his presence and words might influence its action unduly. He desired the expression of the meeting to be the free act of the people. Representative Tipton was present and strongly advocated remonetization, as did all the other speakers, and the resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

BOSTON, 3.—The snowstorm, last night, was quite severe on the coast, the wind blowing hard from the north, which rendered navigation to inward mariners extremely hazardous.

A dispatch from Orleans, Cape Cod, states that two vessels went ashore at Nauset during a storm. One is supposed to be a British brig, and the other a schooner. The crews of both vessels are supposed to be lost. The brig has gone to pieces.

A dispatch from Nauset also reports a large schooner at anchor close in shore, but her name could not be ascertained.

WASHINGTON, 3.—Twenty residents of the northeast section of the city have been commissioned by the board of police as special officers to perform police duty in that section, for three months. The gentlemen are among the best citizens of Capitol Hill.

AUGUSTA, Me., 3.—Governor Connor was inaugurated, this morning, with the usual ceremonies. His inaugural is devoted almost exclusively to local and State matters. He deprecates the passage of the silver bill, and urges the stimulation of agricultural pursuits as one of the most important factors in the prosperity of a state. The savings banks of the State have deposits of \$25,092,872, a decrease of \$1,633,298.

SALEM, N. J., 3.—Fire here last night caused a loss of \$50,000, distributed among a number of persons.

GREAT FALLS, N. H., 3.—The Rollinsford Savings Bank at Salmon Falls, has given notice that no more deposits will be received for six months, but from the sales of the most available securities pay to all depositors, on or before Feb. 1st, 25 per cent. on their respective accounts, and realizing from the assets of the bank as fast as consistent, with the best possible management continue to reduce the debt due depositors. This course is decided upon under no heavy losses or prospect of any other than the depression of the times. The bank has \$750,000 in deposits.

HARRISBURG, Pa., 3.—The malt house in this city, owned by B. M. Greider & Co., was totally destroyed by fire, this morning; loss \$70,000, insurance \$55,300.

BOSTON, 3.—Mr. Sampson, bookkeeper and clerk of the Lowell manufacturing corporation, confessed to having lost about \$10,000

of the company's money by speculation. The company decline to prosecute him, as he made a penitent confession, and promises to reimburse them.

NEW YORK, 3.—Wm. Gould, connected with Barnum's show, was dangerously stabbed, yesterday, by George Watson alias California George, a gambler of this city, formerly of California.

A fire in John Wood & Co's furniture ware rooms, Brooklyn, caused a loss of \$25,000, insured.

In the case of F. T. Wallace vs. Eugene Kelly and others, which was in the form of a motion for an injunction to restrain Kelly and his partner from proceeding with the foreclosure of the first mortgage of the Mariposa estates, Judge Pratt, of Brooklyn, rendered a decision, this afternoon, denying the motion with costs, and vacating the temporary injunction.

Silver bars, 119½ greenbacks, 116 gold; silver coin, ½ @ ½ discount; gold closed, 2½; money, 7; governments, feverish; stocks, lower; Western Union, 77½; Quicksilver, 15½; Pacific, 22½; Mariposa, 11; Wells, Fargo & Co., 86½; New York Central, 106; Erie, 84; Panama 120; Union Pacific, 64½; bonds, 104½; Central Pacific, 104½.

HARTFORD, 3.—The grand jury, this afternoon, found a true bill against James C. Walkey, the former president, and Samuel H. White, the former secretary, and E. C. Wiggins, also a late president, and Henry J. Furber, late financial manager of the Charter Oak Life Insurance Co., for conspiracy to defraud the policy holders of the company.

## FOREIGN.

LONDON, 2.—The Earl of Carnarvon, to-day, received a deputation of South African merchants, who expressed a wish that reinforcements be sent to the Cape, for fear the colonists may be outnumbered, or, in the event of European complications, left to their own resources. The Earl admitted that the situation at the Cape was such as to cause serious anxiety. Regarding the probability of England becoming involved in a European war, he said he did not think, in spite of the fall of Plevna, that there had been any material change in the situation since Lord Derby's reassuring speech in November. The attitude of the government, therefore, remained the same, watchful over real British interests, friendly towards other nations and neutral towards the belligerents. Although government was not prepared to bolster up the Turkish interests, as such, they were resolved to have a voice in the settlement of this question whenever it came on for settlement. England had not, as supposed, offered to mediate, but had merely conveyed the overtures of peace from one belligerent to the other. He wholly disagreed from the idea that Russia's answer to those overtures was any affront or insult to England. Such an idea seemed unreasonable. He thought there was a serious risk on each side. On the one hand, he hoped, we should not lash ourselves into nervous apprehension concerning British honor and interest, as our honor had never been impeached throughout these transactions, and although our interests were undoubtedly large, we should carefully discriminate between zeal and secondary interests. On the other hand, he hoped, sincerely, that Russia would remember that many questions now arising are not for settlement between the belligerents alone, but will involve European interests. In the final decision of these questions, it was very important that England, as a member of the European family, should have a distinct voice.

The Russians have achieved a rare feat of perseverance and endurance in crossing the Etropol Balkans, and though the force cannot be very numerous and the whole movement seems to savor rather of a bold adventurous raid like Gen. Gourko's over the Hankoi Pass than of a regular military operation, it cannot but hasten the withdrawal of the Turkish troops from the Balkan line, at any rate from the western portion. Suleiman Pasha seems to have foreseen this when he took up his headquarters at Ichtiman, and to have thought that a stand made by the junction of Rhodope with the second Balkan chain might effectually bar all advance from the direction of Sofia. There is, however, a succession of parallel valleys formed by the To-

polnica, the Guipso and the Tundja, which run to the north of Ichtiman, by which the Russian columns descending from the Etropol Balkans may press eastward, and, uniting with the forces traversing the Schipka Pass, turn the position of Ichtiman and march down upon Adrianople. The only question, therefore, is whether the Turks are strong enough to bar the descent from the Schipka Pass and hold Ichtiman with the defiles of Topolnica and the Guipso at the same time. If not, they must retreat still further to the east.

BRUSSELS, 2.—A dispatch from Paris intimates that Turkey will probably propose an armistice on the basis that the belligerents retain the positions they now occupy.

MONTREAL, 2.—A. Hamilton, dry goods house, has assigned; liabilities large.

The pensioners of the British army, living in this district, are called on by the war office to send returns of their residence and other particulars, supposed to be a precaution necessary in case men are required, in the event of a war, for garrison duty at home.

LONDON, 3.—The *Post* publishes a paragraph, in an official form, to the effect that the cabinet, yesterday, by no means assumed that Russia's answer shut the door to overtures. The paragraph points out that England, when communicating the Russian answer to the Porte, will be expected to accompany it with advice, therefore it will be very natural if England, before taking this step, inquire what conditions the Russian commanders have been instructed to demand. By approaching Russia again England would be giving proof of her earnest desire to spare Europe further danger.

A Vienna correspondent says the Russian government appears to be throwing out feelers pointing to the demolition of Turkey's Danubian fortresses as one of the conditions of peace.

A Belgrade dispatch says insurrection in Bosnia is reported to be reviving and gaining ground.

The *Times* says money is in less demand for any purpose, and bills have been very scarce. The extreme uncertainty regarding the future course of political affairs causes a greater stagnation than ever in all branches of business.

In the afternoon of Wednesday surplus balances could not be lent at any price at all.

Bullion in Bank of England increased £355,000 the past week.

The proportion of bank reserve to liability is 42 11-16 per cent.

Though the Earl of Carnarvon, Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, whose conciliatory speech, yesterday, to the deputation of South African merchants, was telegraphed, last night, in these dispatches, as one of the peace party in the Cabinet, his statements will be generally accepted as determining, in the affirmative, the only important question hitherto unsettled, viz.: Whether England will consent to the principle of separate negotiations between Russia and Turkey. All the other signatories of the treaty of Paris took advantage of the opportunity afforded by Turkey's circular note to announce their determination on this head. They admitted the claim of Russia to begin and carry on separate negotiations, but reserved their rights as co-signatories of that treaty and for the protection of their own interests, to participate in the final settlement. The following language, in the Earl of Carnarvon's speech, is susceptible of the same interpretation: "I hope sincerely that the Russian government and people will remember that many of the questions arising at this moment are questions not for the two belligerents alone. They involve European interests; they are European questions, and we, as members of the European family, have not only the right to be heard upon them, but it is very important that we should have a distinct voice in the final decision of them. I do not feel any difficulty in reconciling these two views provided only there is reasonable management and moderation on each side."

General Gourko fought a severe battle on the 31st of December, at Tashesan, before securing the Turkish entrenchments, the Russians lost 700 men in killed and wounded. The Turks retreated at nightfall toward Sofia, pursued by the cavalry. After a halt for rest, and a reorganization, Gen. Gourko resumed his advance upon Sofia.