

[SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.]

By Telegraph.

SENATE.

Senator Sumner on Saturday, in speaking of Americans in Europe, said that the United States were disgraced by such men as Minister Washburne, in Paris, and Jones, in Brussels.

A special order has been issued by the War Department, directing the 17th infantry, now in Virginia, and the fourteenth infantry, now in Kentucky, to proceed immediately to Sioux City, Iowa, and report to the Commanding General of the Department for assignment on duty.

A bill making it unlawful to import immigrants under labor contracts, was referred.

Wilson, from the military committee, reported a substitute for the House army bill. The substitute directs the President to reduce the number of enlisted men to 25,000 before January 1st 1871, and authorizes him to honorably discharge officers who apply there for before next October, such officers to receive extra pay and allowances for two years, one and a half years, or one year, according to the term of service, if they have been over ten or not under five years. Officers who have served thirty years may be retired, and the limitation of the number on the retired list shall hereafter be three hundred. The officers of General and Lieut. General shall be confined to the present incumbents. No appointments shall be made to Major Generals or Brigadier Generals until the number of officers of these grades is reduced to three and six respectively. Vacancies occurring in the heads of staff departments are to be filled by officers having the rank and pay of Colonel. The grade of regimental commander is abolished. The generals of the army, commander of departments and chiefs of staffs of the departments shall, as soon as practicable, forward to the Secretary of War, a list of officers deemed unfit for the discharge of their duty, and the Secretary of War shall convene a board of fifty officers for their examination. On the recommendation of this board the President may wholly retire any officer so reported with a year's pay. The schedule of the pay of officers is the same as that of Logan's bill, except that the total pay of a colonel is limited to four thousand, of a lieutenant-col. to thirty-six hundred; of a major to three thousand. Ten per centum of the current yearly pay of all officers shall be allowed for every term of five years, but the total amount of such increase must in no case exceed forty per cent. of the yearly pay. This is provided in view of longevity. The rations heretofore allowed, with full forage and quarters, remain as now allowed. All continued officers on the retired list shall receive seventy-five per cent. of the pay of the rank upon which they retired. The pay and allowances of enlisted men remain unchanged until June '71. Officers on the active list are prohibited holding a civil office.

A joint resolution was adopted directing the committee on education and labor and enquire into the expediency of dividing the net proceeds of the sales of public lands among the several states for educational purposes, and of otherwise so providing by law that all the people of the United States may have an opportunity of acquiring a common school education.

A bill was passed providing for the disposition, by the Interior Department, of useless military reservations.

HOUSE.

In the House a large number of bills were introduced, including one by Sargent, for the relief of the people of the United States, by reducing taxation; it provides for the reduction, after the 30th of June, of fifteen per cent. on internal revenue taxes; import duties, except tobacco in all forms, to be abolished; the income tax and all special licenses, except for distilleries, breweries, and tobacco manufacturers, to be also done away with.

Schenck moved that a commission be appointed to procure an appropriate burial place for the remains of Gen. Rawlings, and that the cost of the same be paid out of the contingent fund of the War Department. Cox suggested its modification, so as to provide for the erection of a suitable monument over the grave.

Voorhees remarked that the remains of Rawlings were lying in a public vault in the graveyard in Washington.

The committee on appropriations reported the Fortification bill, appropriating

one million two hundred and sixty four thousand dollars; it was made the special order for May 4th.

GENERAL.

POUGHKEEPSIE.—Reports of disasters from the recent freshet are still coming in. Green county has suffered greatly; bridges, factories, mill dams and entire roads have been swept away. In the town of Dunham two persons were drowned and several dwelling houses were destroyed. In Ulster county the low lands were flooded, and many families residing there were compelled to flee for their lives.

ALBANY.—The Senate passed a bill appropriating five hundred thousand dollars for the State to erect and lease elevators at Buffalo and Oswego.

MEMPHIS.—A terrible murder was committed on a tow boat near here, this morning. Benjamin Kennedy, engineer, ordered two negro deck hands, who annoyed him, to leave the engine-room, when they stabbed him and threw him overboard; efforts were made to save him, but were ineffectual. The watchman who witnessed the scene and attempted to save Kennedy, was brutally beaten. The negroes were arrested and committed for murder in the first degree.

Allen Wright, the Chief of the Choctaw Indians, issued an address, warning them to be prepared for the coming change, and advising that their lands be held by their organizing immediately as the State of Oklahoma, and then ask for admission as a State of the Union. He recommends immediate action to protect themselves against any territorial government and advises the adoption of a resolution asking Congress to establish them on the same status as the freedmen. He recommends the encouragement of railroads. The council subsequently passed an act submitting the question of dividing their lands so as to be held severally or in common.

WASHINGTON.—The order directing the regiments of infantry from Kentucky and Virginia to report to the commanding general of the department of Dakota, removes the last troops from those States. It is understood that the movement has something to do with the condition of affairs in the Red River country, and refers to the neutrality question.

NEW YORK.—Rumor says that Sunday next has been definitely fixed by the Fenian leaders as the time to commence the raid on Canada.

Chambers, who committed a murder in the Utica Insane Asylum, says there is nothing the matter with him, and he will be back in Brooklyn in a month or two.

There have been slight shocks of earthquake felt in different sections of California and Nevada during the past few days.

The gas works at Virginia City, Nevada, were destroyed by fire to-day.

BOSTON.—The estate of Anson Burlingame was presented in the Probate Court to-day, and was sworn not to exceed sixty thousand in personal property. Papers of administration were granted to his eldest son.

NEW YORK.—On the opening of the court in the McFarland trial, Dr. Vance was again placed on the stand, and testified further regarding the mental condition of the prisoner. Dr. Parsons, physician of the New York Lunatic Asylum, was examined on the same subject. Graham then read extracts from the testimony of various witnesses with regard to the mental condition of the prisoner, previous to and about the time of the shooting. He then asked Parsons, supposing this evidence true, what would be his opinion relative to the sanity of the prisoner. The prosecution objected. The question was answered on these facts, that he certainly should deem the prisoner insane. The court took a recess.

Special despatches to Washington state that there is an almost certain prospect of an Indian war: twenty thousand Sioux are on the war path, and troops are being hurried to the frontier to meet the crisis. Besides the fifteenth and seventh regiments of infantry, which have been ordered to Sioux city, the recruiting officer in this city is ordered to send every available recruit at once to Fort Leavenworth.

General Sherman and several of his staff will leave next week on an inspection tour through Montana and other far western Territories.

The Herald's special at Key West, to-day, says the latest news from Havana is that Count Valmazedes and the political Governor of Santiago refuse to obey orders from the Captain General and from Madrid; the Governor of the Castle of Cabanos also declines to re-

ceive orders from Gen. Carbo, who endeavored to take possession of the fortress yesterday. The Spanish had been routed by the insurgents everywhere, and the destruction of property in the Emirita Villas district was immense. The Captain General is expected to return to Havana to-day.

An officer of our navy, just from Yokohama, says it was reliably ascertained there that Captain Eyre would have stopped his vessel after running into the *Oneida*, but for the implorations of Lady Temple, wife of the British minister, who was apprehensive of a ship wreck. The opinion at Yokohama is that Captain Eyre is a weak rather than a bad man.

CHICAGO.—The *Tribune's* Washington special says that the Spanish authorities sent a dispatch on Saturday to Captain General De Rodas, at Havana, to release the ship *Lloyd Aspenwall*, of New York, seized by the Cuban authorities on a charge of carrying arms to the insurgents. The release is made upon a formal demand of our government.

A telegram reports that Fechter, the actor, is seriously ill at Boston.

CHICAGO.—The *Tribune's* Washington special says the trouble among the Indians in Dakota lies simply in the fact that the House, last session, refused to pass the appropriations and to carry out the treaties. The Secretary of War was at the Capitol to-day, urging early action on the Indian bills. He says he is greatly embarrassed about troops. He has not now enough, and does not see how he can possibly get along if the army is reduced next fall. In consequence of his representations it is possible that the proposed reduction will not be made till the summer of 1871.

RICHMOND.—A large crowd assembled this morning in the upper portion of the Capitol building, where the Supreme Court of Appeals was located, to hear the decision on the mayoralty case. At about eleven o'clock the floor gave way beneath the dense weight, and precipitated the crowd to the floor below, which was the House of Delegates. It is hard to ascertain the present extent of the injuries, so great is the excitement, but some were killed and a large number severely injured. Many escaped the terrible fall by jumping into the windows when the floor gave way. The wounded are now being attended to.

Later. Among the killed are P. H. Aylett, a distinguished lawyer; Dr. J. B. Brock, reporter of the *Examiner*; Samuel Eaton, clerk to Mayor Cahoon; Captain W. A. Charles, chief of the fire department; N. P. Howard, lawyer; A. Levy, merchant; Charles Watson, Hugh Hutchinson, S. L. Webb, of this city, and a brother of Gen. Schofield; P. H. Maury, Jun., Senator Black, colored, and Powhattan Roberts. It is supposed that twenty members of the State legislature are killed and wounded. The Judges of Appeals all escaped unhurt. Ex-Governor Wells was badly injured, also L. S. Chandler, counsel for Cahoon, and Jas. Mason and Judge Meredith, counsel for Ellison. About two hundred persons were hurt by the accident. The greatest excitement prevails; hundreds of persons are in the Capitol square weeping and wailing as the dead and dying are brought from the building. Governor Walker escaped unhurt, though on the court room floor at the time.

A dispatch says it is believed that General Lee's health is failing. He has gained some strength by his southern trip, but not enough to keep his friends from desponding.

A special says that at the Cabinet meeting yesterday, the propriety of allowing the British troops to pass over our soil or through our waters to the Red River country, for the purpose of putting down the rebellion, was fully discussed, and it was unanimously agreed that this thing could not be permitted; every member of the Cabinet concurred in this view.

Up to a late hour last night President Donnelly and other prominent officers of the O'Neil faction of the Fenians were in Council at headquarters. All the staff were busy inditing communications to sub-commanders to have their forces well in hand, and giving other instructions which were not obtainable by the press. Several officers were ordered to their commands last night.

FOREIGN.

LONDON.—The story of the projected Fenian insurrection in London is believed to be a hoax; but a large force of police are on duty.

News has been received that the Greek brigands are closely pressed by the troops; that they have cruelly massacred their English prisoners, and

that the Italian Secretary of Legation at Athens was recently captured.

A telegram says that pieces of wood have drifted to shore on the north-west coast of Cornwall, bearing an inscription, that the *City of Boston* was sinking on Feb. 11th.

Advices from Madrid represent violent quarrels in the Spanish Cabinet and that the partisans of Montpensier are gaining ground.

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