

## BY TELEGRAPH

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## AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 23.—The time of the Jeannette Board this morning was mainly occupied in reading a transcript of Melville's testimony yesterday. The examination of Melville will probably be finished this afternoon. Dr. Collins left Washington this morning much dissatisfied with the treatment he received from the Board in refusing to allow him counsel and ruling out nearly all the important questions which he submitted. Failing to push his inquiries in the direction he desired, he says he will now go to New York and ventilate the matter through the press. He intimates that he will soon publish damaging affidavits reflecting upon the conduct of the officers in charge of the expedition.

Melville's testimony closed this afternoon, and the Board adjourned until Monday.

Melville, in his testimony to-day, said the course of the officers towards Collins was the same as toward others so far as he would permit; but on certain occasions he took offence at remarks made and refused to converse with or speak to the officers. He said in reply to a question that Danenhower was present on one occasion when a difficulty arose between De Long and Collins. Probably Danenhower will be called to testify on this point. Melville, in closing, paid a high tribute to De Long, speaking of him as a competent officer and a man of excellent qualities.

The Secretary of the Interior has ordered that under the new Mexican donation act of July 22nd, 1854, the settlement and cultivation of land claimed by the donee must have been commenced by the first day of January, 1858, that being the limitation by the act for acquiring the necessary residence. Residence within that time is not sufficient in itself to entitle persons having that qualification, to make selection and settlement at any time after acquiring it, but such settlement and cultivation must have been begun within the time limited for obtaining residence. Under this construction the four years of actual settlement and cultivation required by the act must in all cases have been completed by the first day of January, 1862. This decision affects the title to a large number of entries made by settlers in New Mexico.

The Treasury Department to-day purchased 455,000 ounces of fine silver for delivery at the Philadelphia, New Orleans and San Francisco mints for coinage.

The Indian office is in receipt of a report from Agent Wilcox, of San Carlos agency, giving a detailed account of the system of counting the Indians every day. He says the system was inaugurated October 18, and that the highest number reached was 1,236. Each Indian is marked with a tag and number. The Indian's name is recorded in a register kept for that purpose. One of the good results derived from tagging Indians is to know which Indians engage in raids or leave the reservation.

The Department, at the request of Agent Armstrong of the Crow Indian reservation, placed a sufficient force around the reservation to prevent raids of the Piegan, who have, the agent states, robbed the Crows of horses to the amount of \$20,002 in these depredations.

The Postmaster General has decided that canned meats in soldered tin cans weighing not over four pounds can be admitted in the mails as fourth class matter at a postage of 16 cents per pound.

Loring, Commissioner of Agriculture, has submitted his annual report to the President.

The statistical division estimates the following as the yield of 1882: Of corn, 1,535,000,050 bushels; wheat, 410,000,000; oats, 470,000,000; barley, 45,000,000; rye, 20,000,000; buckwheat, 12,000,000.

The trial of Wm. Dickson, for attempting to influence the jury in the Star route case, is set for next Tuesday.

New York, 20.—Times' Washington.—The advocates of the proposed Nicaragua canal will spare no effort to secure the passage of their bill at the coming session of Congress, and supporters of Eads' ship-railway will do all they can in behalf of their project. The bill for the construction of the Nicaragua canal was favorably reported from the House committee on foreign affairs by Mr.

Kasson a few days before the close of the last session.

The Sun's Washington has the following on the forthcoming report of Folger: The Secretary will estimate the surplus at the end of the fiscal year of 1884 at \$80,000,000. He relies upon an important decrease in the river and harbor bill, and in fact in all the appropriations. He will hint at the tendency to Congressional extravagance, and will intimate that this extravagance has been fostered by a knowledge that there would be a surplus of \$14,000,000, exclusive of the sinking fund, at the end of the last fiscal year. The Secretary will urge a reduction of taxation on the ground that large surpluses tempt to extravagance. He will recommend that the debt ought not to be paid off more rapidly than it will naturally become due. He will remind Congress that this can be done by meeting the sinking fund. He will oppose the abolition of the internal revenue tax, but will go further than he did last year respecting the reduction of these taxes. He will urge that spirits and tobacco be taxed, and suggest the amount they may safely be reduced. He will also recommend that the pending tax bill be passed. He will further recommend tariff reduction, but will make no special recommendation on this subject except to call attention to the work of the Tariff Commission. He will confine himself to recommending the careful and thorough revision of the tariff, though he will suggest a reduction in the sugar tax and in that on iron and steel manufactures. He will also call the attention of Congress to the relation of national banks to the bonded debt of the country, suggesting that unless the debt payments relax, the extinguishment of the currency may follow, because banks will refuse to take 4's and 4½'s at a premium to replace the 3's and 3½'s, preferring to retire their circulation. The Secretary will recommend, therefore, that if the revenues are not reduced, the banks be allowed to replace the 3's and 3½'s with 4's and 4½'s, giving circulation for the full value. It is plain that the Secretary and President mean to do all in their power this winter to bring Congress to its senses, and that Sherman is to be the administration ally on the floor of the Senate. He will see the Secretary through, and give him such advice as he may deem best, in other words, Sherman's sway over the Treasury is restored.

Sun's Washington: The Nicaragua canal bill will be called up almost immediately on the assembling of Congress, by Miller, of California, who has had it made the special order for the first day of the session. He acts under instructions from the Legislature of his State. The projectors of this canal will do all they can to secure the passage of the measure, but they have not much hope that Congress will take any action on the subsidy bill at the coming session. Admiral Ammen, the chief advocate of the canal, hopes to be able to persuade the President to favor the project in his message. Gen. Grant still favors it, and may return via the Nicaragua canal. ST. PAUL, 23.—Taking effect to-day, rates from Chicago and Compoints thereto will be 15 cents per hundred pounds regardless of classification, to Winnebago City, Manakato, Shelton, Sioux Falls and Sioux City, where rates are subject to change without notice, signed by the freight agents of the Rock Island, Burlington, Cedar Rapids, and Northern and Omaha lines. If the above is a truthful indication of the policy of the Omaha line, it looks as if a cut in west bound freights from Chicago is imminent. The former rates from Chicago to the above named points ranged from 35 cents to \$1.20 per hundred pounds. These cuts enable the line mentioned to put business in the local territory of the C.M. & St. Paul.

CLEVELAND, 23.—It was voted to admit to representation one delegate from each local labor union, and fix the per capita tax at one cent on each member per annum. A memorial was received from the Woman's National Labor Union, petitioning for representation. After a discussion in the nature of an inquiry whether the petition is in the actual interest of labor, it was voted to admit all bona fide trades unions of women.

A resolution was adopted by a vote of fifteen to two to admit representatives from the district organizations of the Knights of Labor, on the same basis as trade assemblies.

A resolution was adopted to encourage the formation of State federations to influence legislation.

A committee was appointed to obtain legal advice as to the constitutionality of the Miller Chinese bill, some provisions of which have been set aside by a California court, and the committee was instructed if the act is pronounced constitutional, to have it enforced; if unconstitutional, to secure the passage of an amendment rectifying the defects.

A resolution declaring land common property was adversely reported upon and defeated.

A resolution by Congressman Murch was adopted, calling for the national eight-hour law, and the secretary was directed to notify President Arthur of the action of this Congress.

PITTSBURG, 23.—From indications to-day, the strike of the coal miners has proven a failure. Of 59 pits in this district, only 14 have been idle, and the majority of these have resumed.

PHILADELPHIA, 23.—The fourth and fifth floors of Arrot's two mills, occupied by Clark Keene; wooden manufacturers, Priestley & Bros., manufacturers of dress goods, and Wedley & Tetlow, cotton yarn manufacturers are burned out. Loss \$150,000, Clark & Keene alone suffering a loss of about \$110,000. Some 65 employees escaped by the fire escape.

NEW YORK, 23.—The remains of Thurlow Weed will lie in state at Albany. The pall-bearers selected are: Gen. James Watson Webb, ex-Governors Fish and Morgan, A. W. Seward, Chas. O'Connor, John H. Van Antwerp, Alfred Van Sandford, John McKeon, Isaac Bell and Jas. Brown.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., 23.—Johnson Stalford, laborer, was torn to pieces at Springfield to-day by a circular saw.

DES MOINES, Iowa, 23.—The Woman Suffrage Convention of Iowa, was held here to-day. Addresses were made by Mrs. Hindman, of Pittsburg, and Bishop Hutlet.

BUFFALO, 24.—Early this morning a very severe storm broke over the city. For half an hour the gale was accompanied by thunder and lightning. The schooner J.W. Doane from Erie, was forced ashore at the breakwater and bids fair to become a total wreck. The steam barge Empire, safely arrived, having broken away from her tow of two schooners, Groton and A. H. Moss, which it is feared are lost undoubtedly. There will be more casualties to report.

A sleet storm prevails here, interrupting telegraphic communication.

NEW YORK, 24.—The World prints the following:

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 23. To the Editor of the World:

Sir—I have to say in answer to your enquiries by telegraph that I cannot possibly tell how long the existing and inexcusable railroad war may last. It has been begun because we refused to submit to what we deemed very unreasonable demands, and after we had offered to leave all points in dispute to arbitration. It augurs badly for the future of railroad property in this country if great corporations are to act in this manner, after submitting without retaliation for some weeks to unprovoked hostility, we are now simply trying to defend ourselves.

(Signed) ALEX. MITCHELL, President C. M. & St. P. Ry.

INDIANAPOLIS, 24.—This morning a fire in a boarding house, originating in the rear portion of the building, caused its destruction. Two servant girls named Katie Daly and Ella Keenan were burned to death.

SAN FRANCISCO, 24.—United States Commissioner O'Brien has been suspended from duty, on charge of misconduct in connection with the case of seizure of smuggled opium which has recently been so prominent in the United States Court.

BUFFALO, 24.—The terrible storm which broke over the city last night continues to-day in all its fury. The city never had to undergo a harder battle with the elements. Several persons were injured this morning by falling signs; the sidewalks are crowded with debris. The wind is strong enough to overturn canvass-covered express wagons. Its velocity was 60 miles an hour at 8.30 this morning. Sleet, snow and rain have been falling since about 2 o'clock.

The harbor presents a gloomy appearance. In addition to the loss of the schooner Doane, the schooner A. H. Moss was almost totally wrecked, having gone upon the

breakwater at the foot of York Street. The life-saving crew rescued all hands, and tugs are working to get the vessel off before she goes to pieces entirely. The schooner Grafton was on the beach at Tift farm at daylight, and a lifeboat has gone to the rescue. The Little Grant floating elevator capsized during the night and was thrown upon the dock. The water in the creek has risen four feet. The schooner Doane is now breaking up. So far not a life has been lost in this port but escapes have been miraculous.

WASHINGTON, 24.—A catalogue of articles accumulated at the dead letter office during the past year has just been issued, announcing the sale thereof at public auction, Dec. 4th. The articles consist of jewelry and toilet goods, and every conceivable thing which could be sent through the mails. There are more than 8,000 packages.

WASHINGTON, 24.—The special census bulletin shows that in the United States are 4,923,451 persons of ten years of age and upwards unable to read; 6,239,958 unable to write. Of native whites unable to write there are 225,460; colored persons ten years and upwards unable to write 3,220,878, or 70 per cent. of the population. Illiteracy is confined principally to the Southern States.

The Postoffice Department has signed a contract for supplying the combination letter sheets and envelopes.

The Interior Department is informed that Navajo Indians with herds and other property all returned to reservation, and that there is no further need of troops in that vicinity.

CLEVELAND, 24.—Messrs. Gowher, of New York, Howard, of Massachusetts, Edmondston, of Washington, Powers, of Chicago, and Foster, of Ohio, were appointed a Committee on legislation for the ensuing year.

WASHINGTON, 24.—The Secretary of the Treasury, this afternoon, directed Assistant Treasurer Acton at New York to accept unmatured bonds on all calls, including the 109th, without rebate of interest, at the rate of \$10,000,000 per week, on any day of the week, payable at the office of the Assistant Treasurer. The cause of this order is the recent panicky condition of the money market.

The Garfield Monument Fair will open at 2 o'clock p. m. to-morrow. The exercises will not include the contemplated oration, but will be confined to President Arthur's declaration that the fair is open, and this will be made from the pagoda in the centre of the Capitol rotunda. The Cabinet will be present, also the Justices of the Supreme Court, members of the Diplomatic corps, the General of the Army and Admiral of the Navy. The preparations are complete and the display will be beautiful and varied.

Secretary Lincoln says he has neither approved nor disapproved the opinion of Judge Advocate General Swalm with regard to the liability of army officers to court martial for persistent non-payment of debts. There was no case before him which required a decision of the question.

District Attorney Corkhill said to-day the new trial of the Star route cases will undoubtedly begin the 4th of December next.

It is said the discharge of Detective Miller is the first step in the policy of the President, adopted by him at the suggestion of the Attorney General, to punish by dismissal such employees of the government as have attempted to interfere with the conviction of the Star route defendants. Helm, foreman in one of the departments of the government printing office, and publisher of a newspaper which roundly assailed the prosecution in the late Star route trial, is talked of as also marked for dismissal.

Until within a few days, Commissioner Raum was disposed to make no recommendation looking to reduction in internal revenue taxes. It is believed now, however, he will advise such a reduction as will leave the aggregate income of the government from that source at about a hundred million per annum. It is known the President, while firmly opposed to any proposition looking to the abolition at this time of the entire internal revenue system, believes the time has come when substantial relief can safely be accorded the tax-payer, and that a portion of this relief should come from the reduction in internal revenue taxations. With this view the Cabinet is in entire accord, and the President in his message will recommend the abolition of all inter-

nal revenue taxes upon tobacco in its various forms and upon spirits and fermented liquors, and except also the special tax upon manufactures of and dealers in such articles, with a reduction in the tax upon whiskey and tobacco, upon the basis of the bill which passed the House of Representatives at the last session of Congress. A special tax is deemed essential to afford the officers of the government the proper supervision of these articles for the prevention of fraud. If the recommendation be adopted, the remaining sources of internal revenue will yield, according to the estimates of the Commissioner of internal revenue, about a hundred million dollars per annum.

OMAHA, 24.—The C. M. & St. P. Omaha Road announces this evening a big cut in east-bound freight from Omaha via their road to St. City and thence east to Chicago, the Illinois Central. The rate 25 cents per 100 pounds, regardless of classification, from Omaha to Chicago. Considerable freight has been shipped to Omaha by the route by the Illinois Central during the last month, as the Illinois Central did it to endeavor to force its line into the Iowa pool. The above bound cut is against the Iowa pool which includes the C. M. & St. P. as freight.

Philadelphia, 24.—There was collision between coal trains on the Lehigh Valley Railroad, resulting in wrecking the engines and many cars.

Omaha, 24.—The St. Paul, Omaha, and Illinois Central freight line makes a rate of 25 cents on freight from Omaha to Chicago, regardless of classification.

CLEVELAND, 24.—Resolutions were adopted to take political action against men and measures opposed to trades unionism, advising local plasterer unions to connect themselves with the National Plasterers' Union, and urging plasterers to organize local unions where none now exist; recommending trade unions to study the question of the tenure of land; requesting workmen to smoke only cigars manufactured by union men; instructing legislation committees to urge passage by Congress of a bill for protection of life and property at sea. A platform of principles was ratified, substantially the same as last year, minus the tariff plank and with the addition of a paragraph calling for the passage of employee liability laws. The platform insists on the passage of Federal and State laws for the incorporation of labor organizations; favors compulsory education of children; calls for forbidding the employment of children under 14 years of age, demands uniform apprentice laws; calls for the enforcement of the National hour law; denounces convict labor; asks that the order or truck system of payment be prohibited by law; favors making wages a first lien on property; demands the repeal of all so-called conspiracy laws, asks for National bureau of labor statistics; calls for the prevention of the transportation of foreign laborers under contract, and recommends that trades organizations secure proper representation in all law making bodies.

Adjourned to meet next August in New York. A banquet and were given to-night by the Cleveland trades assemblies in honor of the delegates to the Labor Congress.

BOSTON, 24.—Wool continues in fair demand; sales weak amounting to 2,000,000 pounds, and upward. Prices a shade easier, but remain without material change. Sales of Ohio X at 41, and 45 for XX, and 42½ @ 44½ for XX and above and XXX. Michigan X fleeces at 38 @ 39. No. 1 fleeces at 42 @ 46, mostly Ohio, at 45 @ 46. In combing and delaine fleeces sales have been 34 @ 46 for fine delaine and 47 @ 48 for fine and No. 1 combing, unwashed wools being in fair demand with prices steady, sales 17 @ 23 for low and coarse, 24 @ 32 for fine and medium and choice selections higher. California spring been selling 20 @ 32. Round lot northern 11 @ 20 pounds selling at 30. In foreign wools there have been sales of 115,000 pounds of Australian, 75,000 lbs. Cape and 67,000 lbs. Mediterranean carpet.

SAN FRANCISCO, 24.—Portland dispatch: Mrs. Captain John Smith's daughter of Morgan, alleged to have been killed by Masons in 1826, died at Meham, Marion County, Monday. Although frequently questioned regarding the tragedy, she to the last declined to throw any light on the subject.

CHICAGO, The Times says: Last night it was learned that the whole