

## BY TELEGRAPH.

## AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 5.—The postoffice bill, as finally passed, contained a clause which the publishers strongly advocated. It divides all the mail matter into four classes. First, written matter; second, periodical publications; third, miscellaneous printed matter; and fourth, merchandise. In the second class come all the newspapers and periodicals issued four times annually or oftener. All such publications, with certain exceptions, when sent from publishing office including sample copies, or when sent from a news agency to actual subscribers or to other news agents, shall be entitled to transmission at two cents per pound prepaid. The publishers of newspapers may, without extra charge for postage, fold a supplement in their regular issues, provided it is germane to the publication which it supplements. Publishers may also include bills of receipts and order for subscriptions. Publishers are allowed to send one copy to each actual subscriber within the county, free.

SAN FRANCISCO, 5.—A severe rain storm has prevailed throughout the northern and central portions of the State for the past thirty-six hours.

The steamer *City of Panama*, left port to-day for Panama, put back on account of the stress of weather.

NEW YORK, 6.—A Washington correspondent has the following, and is not alone in his opinion: The motives of the administration in calling the session at so early a period as March 18th, is interesting enough to make it worth while that they should be plainly understood. They concern an ingenious combination, fathered by Garfield, for giving the speakership either to Garfield himself or to Kelly, according as the White House may or may not succeed in commanding the confidence of the greenback people in the new Congress. The basis upon which these calculations rest is very simple: By the death of Schleicher a vacancy exists in the Texas delegation, which is to be filled by an election ordered for April 15. Singleton, of Illinois, democratic member elect, now lies seriously ill at Hot Springs and, according to Garfield's information, will hardly be able to reach Washington by March 18. Lay, of Missouri, another democrat, has been very ill for many months past, and Garfield firmly believes, will not be allowed by his physicians to travel at this season of the year. Bland, of Missouri, is also confined at his residence, and is reported, according to Garfield, to be dangerously ill. Acklen, is also lying ill just now at his quarters in this city, and Garfield has satisfied himself that he will not be able to leave the house certainly for a month. Garfield further relies upon the possible arrest of five other democratic members against whom Attorney General Devens is working up indictments. The President has been induced by Garfield to believe that by calling Congress together on March 18th, the administration will be enabled to prevent the democrats from organizing their own House.

The *Times*, to-day, summarizes the work of Congress: of nearly 200 laws enacted four were financial acts, seven appropriation bills, seven relate to the army and navy, 13 to public lands, eight to judiciary, 35 may be classed as miscellaneous, the rest are acts for the relief of somebody, or to put somebody on the pension rolls, or give somebody relief from political disabilities.

A Frankfurt correspondent of the *Commercial Bulletin* says: The accumulation of silver in the Austrian banks has become a mild nuisance, which both the banks and the government are endeavoring to get rid of. Since last September 31, 132,000 guilders, silver coin, have come into the vaults of the Austro-Hungarian bank; and these are now almost filled to the utmost capacity. Various remedies have been suggested to recall the one to five guilder notes and increase the fifty guilder notes, and thus compel the public to accept silver. The general council has now placed 1,000,000 guilders at the disposal of the government for the purpose of withdrawing one guilder notes. Besides this, at the bank offices in Vienna and Pesth, silver, to the amount of 10,000 guilders, to any one person, will be exchanged for bank notes.

Large quantities of grain, stored in Little Wallachia, Servia, and Roumania, are awaiting the opening of navigation. In Hungary, along the Danube, Theiss and Save, we hear of preparations for large shipments.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., 6.—On Saturday night, about 10 o'clock, a party of six or eight masked men called at the cabin of an old negro named Abe Wooton, living in the ninth district, eight miles from Manchester, and demanded admittance, which being refused, they set fire to the cabin in two or three places. Finding that he and his family (wife and four children) would be burned if they remained, the old man rushed out and was seized by the maskers, carried a hundred yards or so, and shot to death. In the mean time his wife and children huddled near the dead body of the husband and father, to remain till morning.

SULLIVAN, Ills., 6.—The boiler of George Keplers saw mill, three miles southwest of this city, exploded yesterday at noon, demolishing the mill and machinery. Johan Baugher, the head sawyer, was blown to atoms, and fragments of his body were scattered in all directions.

WASHINGTON, 6.—There is reason to believe that the President's message to congress will be brief and confined to the subjects for which it will be convened, and that he will at the instance of the Secretary of the Treasury ask that measures be adopted for an increase of revenue, it having been decreased to the extent of \$10,000 by the passage of the tobacco bill. The secretary says, to-day, but for this he would have \$28,000,000 surplus revenue with which to pay the arrears of pensions recently authorized by congress.

The report of the Reno court of inquiry, after giving the history of the events immediately preceding the battle of Little Big Horn, and the part taken by Major Reno's command in the fight, says:

The conduct of the officers throughout was excellent, and while the subordinates, in some instances, did more for the safety of the command by brilliant displays of courage than did Major Reno, there was nothing in his conduct which requires a modification from this court. It is the conclusion of this court, in view of all the facts in evidence, that no further proceedings are necessary; in this case, and it expresses this opinion in compliance with the concluding clause of the order convening the court.

(Signed) JOHN H. KING, Col. of the 9th, President.

J. M. LEE, 1st Lieut. and Adjutant 9th Infantry, Recorder.

The findings of the court of inquiry in the case of Major Reno are approved, and the proceedings are respectfully forwarded to the Honorable Secretary of War.

GENERAL SHERMAN.

The final endorsement is as follows:

The proceedings and the findings are approved by order of the President.

GEORGE W. MCCRARY, Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, 5.—There was a premature explosion of nitro-glycerine at Dutch Gap, James River, killing M. C. Haggerty, government contractor for widening and otherwise improving Dutch Gap; one negro and Elias Hall, who had charge of operating the glycerine. Hall's body was blown into the river and not recovered.

SAN FRANCISCO, 6.—Fannie McConnell, whose remains it was supposed were found in a trunk at Lynn, Mass., is in this city with her parents, residing at Harrison and Twenty-Third Streets. They arrived a few weeks ago from Boston. Miss McConnell says that the error as to her whereabouts and supposed identification of her remains arose from the fact that shortly before starting for California she told a friend that she did not intend to make a through trip, but would return in a few days. Chief of police Kirkpatrick has telegraphed to Supt. Adams, of Boston, in accordance with the above facts.

A dispatch from Napa says: The creek overflowed to-day, and the water in the suburbs of Spanish town and Chinatown is six feet deep. It came so suddenly that there were many lives lost and several narrow escapes from drowning.

NEW YORK, 7.—A fire broke out at 2 this morning in Atwater's gunnysack factory, in Bridge Street. Four alarms sounded. Nearly the entire force of the department is now at the scene. From present appearances there is every indication of a serious fire. The heavy iron shutters, which are closed, keep the fire in check, but these are now melting off. There is much valuable property in the neighborhood.

On the whole the democrats look forward with great misgiving to the extra session, which will solidify the republicans. Even Conkling is ranging in line with the President, and will greatly demoralize the democracy, especially if they insist on passing the objectionable legislation and are compelled to yield.

The *Times'* Washington special says: It is stated that the democrats will introduce and put through the constitutional amendment, at an extra session, prohibiting the payment of any war claims. The opinion is almost universal that the extra session will be long, a few predicting that there will be no adjournment until July, and Chandler and Secretary Sherman expect it to be continuous till March, 1880. An ugly dead-lock is expected on account of the looked for veto by the President of the legislative bill, with the amendment repealing the election and test oath laws, and all important bills including the Chinese bill, which have just failed, will come up again.

The *Herald's* Washington special, on the speakership contest, says: There is no change in the relative attitude of Randall and Blackburn, except that there is a disposition to introduce the issue of Tilden's renomination by making Randall representative of that gentleman, and Blackburn the candidate of Thurman's interest.

The *Herald's* Washington special says: It is rumored that Hayes has decided to recall Minister Foster from Mexico. The objection to Foster is said to be his unpopularity with the Diaz government.

HARTFORD, 7.—Elihu Burritt died last night at his residence, New Britain.

CHICAGO, 7.—The *Tribune's* Washington special says: Confidence was evinced, to-day, in Supreme Court Justice, Bradley, by a call from the Louisiana delegation, who waited upon him for the purpose of requesting him to preside at the forthcoming trial of the Tensas and Natchitoches parish cases. The reason alleged was that the people of Louisiana have confidence in his judicial fairness, which is more than they could say of the circuit and district judges there.

The democrats are hourly more doubtful about organizing the House. Besides deaths, sickness, etc., the unwillingness of northern war democrats to support a southern candidate for speaker must be taken into account. Southern men insist on having the speakership, as they can have neither the presidency nor vice presidency. Two democrats will certainly vote against Randall, and for an independent until Randall's friends withdraw him. The democrats express some alarm at the possibility now looming up of the republicans capturing the House. Overtures have already been made by hard money democrats to Garfield, asking whether, under certain conditions, he would become a candidate, and assurances were given him that if he would accept the conditions he could be guaranteed the election. The conditions referred to the organization of committees. Garfield wisely rejected these overtures, and said it would be a party calamity should any republican be tempted to accept such a proposition.

NEW YORK, 7.—The Central Pacific earnings for February, come up to \$1,095,000, a gain on last year of \$112,500. For the first two months of the new year the figures are \$2,236,000, against \$2,091,500 in January and February of 1878.

Goodspeed denies the report of the 14th of February, attributing to him the statement before the Bullion Club that he did not think the Old Telegraph mine, of Utah, would net a hundred thousand dollars in thirty years. He did say it had already cleared a million dollars, and that the mine is producing more ore than ever before. The misapprehension apparently arose from his failure to respond categorically to a suggestive inquiry whether he did not know the mine was not worth a hundred thousand.

James R. Keene states, to-night, that his name was forged, on Thursday night, to a half-rate telegraphic message to J. K. Fisher & Co., grain merchants of Chicago, directing them to sell 3,000,000 bushels of wheat on Mr. Keene's account. This caused a decline in wheat at Chicago, to-day, from 96 to 93. Keene knew nothing of the transaction until this afternoon, and repudiates the entire sale, which will compel the repurchase, by Fisher & Co., of the amount sold on his account to-day. Keene says he had no intention of making any sales of grain at present, and certainly not at 93c. per bushel. The message was sent through the Atlantic and Pacific company, and Keene states that it was evidently the work of an agent, in New York of Chicago parties. Steps have been taken to discover the author of the telegram. Keene says suspicions are strong against persons short of provisions who hoped, by this means, to depress the market and cover shorts. A large reward will immediately be offered, by Keene for the discovery of the forger and his associates. The original copy of the dispatch is now in Keene's possession.

WASHINGTON, 7.—The cabinet has decided to appoint the following members of the national board of health: Surgeon General Woodworth of the marine hospital service, represents the treasury department; Medical Director Francis M. Gunnel, the navy department; Solicitor General Phillips, the department of justice, and Assistant Surgeon John S. Billings, the war department.

Rumors of a combination between the republicans and a few dissatisfied democrats to elect Gen. Garfield as Speaker, have gained considerable currency, but are destitute of any respectable foundation. The republicans have no desire to elect any one to preside over a house which he could not control, and for the legislation of which the republican party does not want to be responsible. The talk of a republican coalition with the greenbackers of the House seems to have little if any better foundation, for an overwhelming majority of republican members have already planted themselves upon the hard money platform and expect to make the success of specie resumption one of their principal claims for popular support during the next presidential campaign.

Senator Sargent has accepted an invitation tendered by the Secretary of the Navy, to take an extended sea voyage for the benefit of his health, on the school ship *Saratoga*, which will leave Annapolis about the 1st of April with the graduating class of the naval academy, for a cruise of four months to Madeira, Cape Verde Islands, Gibraltar, etc. His return to California will therefore be deferred until late in the summer.

The United States consul general at Cairo, Egypt, furnishes the department of state facts from authentic sources regarding the Suez Canal. He says the entire cost of the canal was \$92,278,907. The stock in the company consists of 400,000 shares at 500 francs each. These have sold as low as 100 francs each. At the opening of the canal they had advanced to only 300 francs. They are now quoted at 717 francs, and are probably worth more. The revenues of the canal increased from 5,000,000 francs in 1870, to over 30,000,000 francs in 1877. The expenses, including interest, sinking fund, and land; have been a little over 17,000,000 francs per year, and while the revenues are steadily increasing, the expenses are decreasing. The saving of distance to British ships going to India is nearly 5,000 miles. Two-thirds of the vessels passing through the canal carry the English flag. Ferdinand Lesseps expresses the opinion that the Panama canal must be constructed, without looks to be successful or remunerative.

TORONTO, 7.—By order of the House, Smith, the Western Union telegraph manager who refused to give up certain messages supposed to show bribery in the recent senatorial election, and who, for such refusal, was taken in custody and has been a prisoner two weeks, was released to-day without action being taken.

NEW ORLEANS, 7.—The jury in the Natchitoches election case rendered a verdict of acquittal.

NEW YORK, 8.—The *Star's* Washington special says: The principal anxiety among the democrats in regard to the organization of the

next House still turns upon the fear that some of their members will be kept away by illness. In spite of the emphatic assertions to the contrary, this is still a serious danger. Arrangements have been made to run a special car, fitted up for the use of invalids, to accommodate Bland, Singleton, and Lay, from St. Louis. Telegrams which have been received make it probable that these men will come, although Lay will make the trip at the risk of his life. Some apprehension is felt as to Whitaker, of Oregon, to whom several telegrams have been sent, so far, without eliciting any answer.

The *Tribune* discloses the plot of a gang at Washington and here to obtain subscriptions to a pretended memorial to Bayard Taylor. The parties engaged are apparently respectable. The plan was laid with much care and deliberation. Forged letters and subscriptions were successfully used. Gen. Dix's subscription was \$50. Frederic De Peyster's was also obtained for the same amount. Peter Cooper's name was forged. Operations have been carried on through all the large eastern cities. Circulars, invitations and notices were tastefully printed, on expensive paper, and the elaborate preparations made by the conspirators would seem to indicate that they expected to be well paid before the bubble burst.

The *Herald* has the result of a personal interview with all the democratic congressmen, whereby it is shown that Tilden is the first and the choice of thirteen and acceptable to nine. Thurman is the first choice of fifty and acceptable to eleven. Hendricks is the first choice of twelve and acceptable to twenty-eight. Bayard is the first choice of ten and acceptable to nineteen. The interviewed numbered 127.

It is asserted positively that the President informed republican congressmen that he will not oppose the repeal of the act in regard to the use of troops at elections, and points to his record in Louisiana and South Carolina, to show that he cannot do it. As to the supervisors law, however, he is determined to adhere to it; believing, or at least asserting, it to be a protection to the purity of the ballot, and he loudly threatens that he will veto any legislation proposing its repeal.

CHICAGO, 8.—A mysterious dispensation, yesterday, sent the prices of wheat down five or six cents and created almost a panic on 'change. There have been many days when the prices of wheat have fluctuated five to ten cents per bushel, but there has scarcely been a more general interest felt on any of those occasions than yesterday, and certainly none where the cause was more occult. Early in the day Archie Fisher, brother of J. K. Fisher, the accredited broker of James Keene, began selling wheat in spite of the stronger cable advices and generally favorable symptoms for holders. Most of the trading was in the April option, which sold steadily down from 96½ to 90½ and closed with a 92½ bid. The sales continued steadily until 93 was reached when the "bear" movement seemed to fall from Fisher's grasp and be taken by other parties. Fisher sold, according to his own account, about 2,000,000 bushels, but says it is nobody's business why. Rumsey Brothers & Co., are said to have sold a million and a half, and other dealers enough to make an aggregate of nearly 4,680,000 bushels were sold during the afternoon call in less than half an hour. The reason for these heavy sales was wrapped in mystery. It was rumored during the afternoon on 'change that Archie Fisher had received a forged dispatch from Keene which directed him to sell three million bushels. That he telegraphed to know if the dispatch was genuine, and was answered by another forged dispatch that it was. This view seems confirmed by advices from New York. Another rumor was that a combination of provision men had taken hold of the wheat with determination to "bear" it and to use Fisher as an agent in order to mislead the crowd. It is stated that a heavy reward has been offered for the discovery of the sender of the bogus order. Some members of the board of trade affect to disbelieve Keene's story, and intimate that there is something sinister and unexplained in the whole affair.

NEW YORK, 8.—Statistics seem to suggest the advisability of de-