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AMERICAN.

CHICAGO, 22.—Col. Thomas M. Nichols, being interviewed to-day, said he believed Garfield wrote the Rosecrans-Chase letter, and that its kindly criticism of Rosecrans' conduct corresponded exactly with what Garfield had frequently said to him (Nichols). Nichols continued: Soon after the election of 1880, Gen. Garfield gave me a letter to deliver to Geo. Grant. I called at Grant's rooms in the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York to hand him the letter. We had perhaps a half hour's conversation about the campaign generally and the Morey letter matter in particular. During the conversation, Grant said there were two men that Garfield could never recognize or speak to without the entire sacrifice of his own self-respect—Hewitt and Rosecrans. He said Hewitt's conduct was outrageously indecent, and that Rosecrans was a great deal worse, for Garfield had been the best friend he ever had. He had stood up for him, apologized for his blunders, explained and excused them, and defended him for 17 years, when if it hadn't been for Garfield, he would have long ago sunk out of sight into obscurity, which was all his worthlessness entitled him to. He said he hoped Garfield had found him out at last, and would let him take care of himself hereafter. He was never fit to command an army. He wouldn't or rather couldn't obey orders. He was what he (Grant) called a constitutional insubordinate, a sort of pig-headed, obstinate man, who would get a selfish prejudice into his head and stick to it, and act on it, against the judgment and reason of everybody else, and absolutely was incapable of seeing any force in any facts or arguments in conflict with what was for the time being his theory. He said Rosecrans would have utterly destroyed the Army of the Cumberland, or had it destroyed, if it hadn't been for the intelligence of the army itself, and especially of such subordinate officers as Garfield and Thomas.

"Do I understand you to say, Mr. Nichols, that Gen. Grant expressed that opinion of Rosecrans to you after Garfield's election to the Presidency?"

"Yes, sir; about a week after the election. I have given you his ideas, and very nearly his language."

"Was the conversation confidential?"

"Not at all; at least I did not so regard it. It was simply a natural bit of conversation growing out of reference to matters of universal conversation. It was nothing in the nature of a communication that I was to carry to anybody else. It interested me very much, and I remember it very distinctly."

BISMARCK, 22.—The scene of the Mandan accident on the Northern Pacific Railroad is eleven miles west of Bismarck, in Soapstone Cut, Sweet Briar Creek. The train was a working train, having a lot of sleeping cars for workmen, and fifty men in all, and was going at ten miles an hour. A wheel on the head truck of a flat car broke, and the whole truck jumped the track and dragged along until the bridge was reached, when the first sleeper, which had twenty-four men in, was precipitated into the river, thirty feet below, striking on its side. The second sleeper followed in the same way, then the dining car and kitchen car tumbled down and were broken into splinters. The bedding of No. 1 sleeper caught fire at once, and the dying sufferers were nearly roasted alive. All the deaths were in this car. Those who escaped tried vainly to put out the flames. It is believed that seven of the eight killed were unconscious before the flames reached them. Only one voice was heard crying for help, and no help could be given him, and he gradually roasted to death. The killed were A. L. Johnson; Thos. Wilson, Wm. Watson, Thos. Grady, Geo. Moser, Jas. O'Brien, Wm. McAndrews, and an unknown man. Only two of the others were seriously injured. The coroner found nobody to blame for the accident. The dead were interred here, and the sick are being tenderly cared for.

CHEYENNE, W. T., 22.—There is a reign of terror at Laramie City, fifty-six miles west of here. Incendiaries have been at work for four nights past, and fires occurred every night, some of them very costly, and no distinction as to class of property, railroad building, hotels and dwelling houses suffering alike.

The vigilantes have been patrolling the streets for three nights, and ran in about twenty strangers, but the fires would start up on all sides, and the prisoners were released. The terror is great, because people don't know what to expect next, for the reason that they don't know whom to suspect. There will be a necktie party if the offenders are caught.

The trial of Charles Pieronnet for the murder of Wm. Graves, a year ago, is in progress at Laramie City.

Two nights ago vigilantes of Rawlins lynched two men named James Lacky and Bob Roddock, who had burglarized several houses and planned to rob a bank, when a pal gave them away.

NEW ORLEANS, 22.—By order of the Secretary of War, 300,000 rations for the overflowed sections are being delivered to the commissioner, 50,000 rations are sent to Atchafalaya. The rations issued for 22,000 people for 15 days will soon be exhausted. Forty thousand people apply for rations. This number can't be supplied unless additional rations are received. Provisions will be shipped daily until all is supplied. There being no funds at the disposal of the Governor, the Times (dem.) furnished the State commissioner with forage for distribution, then bought a steamer for the commissioner's use, stocking it with corn, oats, bran and hay for the sufferers. East of Oucheta river stock is reported dying by hundreds. Apprehensions are felt that the people will not be able to plant a crop even if the water recedes in time on account of the loss of stock.

WASHINGTON, 22.—Five speeches were delivered in the House of Representatives on the Chinese bill to-day. Four by republicans—all in favor of its passage—and the fifth, still more unexpectedly, by a prominent southern democrat, who opposed it on every imaginable ground, in an eloquent speech which echoed almost to the letter all the humanitarian and the commercial arguments that have hitherto fallen from the lips of the delegation from Massachusetts. It may be noted by way of comment, that the principal argument by which McClure, of Ohio, and Bayne and Scranton, of Pennsylvania, justified their advocacy of the bill, is the propriety and necessity of affording protection to free American labor. Each of these gentlemen represents a manufacturing district. Butterworth, of Ohio, also made effective use of this argument, and neatly illustrated his position by declaring himself in favor of protecting American labor from the Chinese, whether in San Francisco or in Canton; but he went further, and with great clearness demonstrated that the bill, so far from being contrary to the spirit of our institutions, is really based upon their fundamental principles, and dictated by considerations of the highest philanthropy. Although Butlerworth expressed his preference for a reduction of the term of suspension to 15 years, and Scranton similarly favored a 10 years' amendment, neither of them gave reason to doubt that he will eventually vote for the passage of the bill in its present shape.

Debate on the Chinese bill has been continued by Kasson, of Iowa, and Lord, of Michigan, in opposition to the bill, unless materially amended, and by Tucker, of Virginia, who is now making a powerful argument in its advocacy. The discussion will not be terminated until to-morrow.

The report of the court-martial in the case of Cadet Whittaker, will be made public to-morrow through special orders of the Secretary of War. These orders set aside the verdict and sentence of the court martial, and will release Whittaker from arrest. At the same time they will dismiss him from the military academy under provisions of section 1,325, revised statutes, relating to discharging cadets found deficient in studies. The action of the President in the case is based on an opinion by Attorney General Brewster, to whom the Secretary of War referred the report of the Judge Advocate General, that improper evidence had been admitted in the Whittaker trial.

At a cabinet meeting to-day, the case of Cadet Whittaker was disposed of by disapproving the sentence of dismissal from service imposed by the court, on the ground that technical evidence at the trial was improperly introduced.

The Indian agent at the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Agency in Indian Territory telegraphs to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs from Fort Reno, that the reduction of rations by one-third, which was ordered by

the Indian Bureau, cannot be made at this time without suffering to the Indians. This would probably cause an outbreak. The agent says the Indians refuse to submit to the enrolment for beef rations on the proposed basis. Commissioner Price replied that the instructions must be obeyed as Congress has failed to make the necessary appropriations for full rations.

DALLAS, Texas, 22.—Rumor says the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad will build the Dallas & San Antonio. The arrangement previously made to reach Dallas by the Gulf & Pacific to be constructed from Sabine Pass, Albuquerque. It is stated last night the Chief Engineer and General Passenger Agent of the Chicago, Texas & Mexico Central road has resigned. Cause, failure of the syndicate and indebtedness of the directory. Prominent citizens of Dallas threaten to resign unless matters brighten, at the home office of this road.

CHICAGO, 22.—A Washington special says: A gentleman in intimate relations with the embassy at Washington of the Chinese Empire, said that in case the pending anti-Chinese bill passed the House, the Chinese minister would move the legation to Spain, to which country he is the accredited representative, and that official intercourse between the United States and China would be mutually broken off. Mr. Bartlett, American secretary of legation, is said to be in hearty accord with the proposed action.

NEW YORK, 22.—The Palmetto Consolidated Mining and Milling Co., situated in Hilldale County, Colorado, was sold to-day at public auction to pay a judgment obtained against it by Wm. C. Martin. It brought only \$15,000, J. H. Mangham being the purchaser.

CHICAGO, 22.—Shipments this week are the lightest for many months because of prices here being relatively too high. Packers say the loss on provisions shipped to Liverpool at present prices would be a cent per pound, and bacon could be sent from Liverpool here and sold at a profit.

MOOREHEAD, Minn., 23.—Barnes & McGill's elevator burned at Hawley last Tuesday night with 150,000 bushels of wheat. Total loss \$200,000; insurance \$135,000.

KEOKUK, 23.—Judge Love, of the United States Court, decides that a plaintiff cannot recover from a telegraph company on account of failure to send a dispatch to Chicago ordering the purchase of options because the laws of business forbid option trading.

PHILADELPHIA, 23.—The tug boat Henry C. Spratt exploded her boiler this morning, killing four men. Geo. Scully, the captain, was blown over the house tops into Water Street. The dead bodies of Bernard McCann and Patrick Flanagan, fireman, and a man named Maloney were recovered. John Lyons, engineer, and two others are missing. Immediately following the explosion, flames broke out in all directions. Pier No. 8, occupied as a passenger and freight station of the Philadelphia and Atlantic City Railway, took fire and was destroyed. The tug Ella, lying at the wharf below, also took fire and sank after being well burned. Windows were shattered in all directions for squares. Three dead bodies were found in the street. The engineer has been found, having had a very narrow escape. The front of the ferry house building was blown out and the watchman came near losing his life.

CHICAGO, 23.—An Ottawa, Ill., special brings the gratifying intelligence that the State supreme court has decided that probate courts in Illinois are legally constituted. This decision was on a rehearing and reverses a previous demoralizing decision of the court.

The Evening Journal's Des Moines, Iowa, special says: Smallpox developed in the county jail yesterday, creating consternation among the 20 inmates and among the court and county officers, the jail being under the court house. The court adjourned in haste; the premises are quarantined, and two convicts removed to the pest house. Doctors disagree as to the diagnosis of the disease.

WASHINGTON, 23.—The following call has been issued:

To the American People:

The President having signed the treaty of the Geneva conference and the Senate having ratified the President's action, the American Association of the Red Cross, organized under the provisions of said treaty purposes at once to send its agents among the sufferers by the recent floods with a view to amelior-

ating their condition so far as can be done by human aid and the means at hand will admit of. Contributions are urgently solicited. Remittance in money may be made to Hon. Chas. J. Folger, secretary of the treasury, chairman of the board of trustees, or to his associates Hon. R. T. Lincoln, secretary of war, and Hon. Geo. B. Loring, commissioner of agriculture. Contributions of wearing apparel, bedding and provisions should be addressed to the Red Cross Agent, Memphis, Tenn., Vicksburg, Miss., and Helena, Ark.

(Signed:) Clara Barton, Bancroft Davis, Frederick Douglas, Alex. Y. P. Garnett, Mrs. Omar D. Congar, A. S. Solomon, Mrs. S. A. Martha Canfield, R. D. Mussey.

Prest. Arthur gave a complimentary dinner to General and Mrs. Grant, last night. Covers were laid for 36.

Secretary Hunt received a cable dispatch dated Montevideo, stating that Admiral Spotts died at Stanley, Falkland Island, March 9th, of apoplexy, and was buried there. He was appointed to the navy from Kentucky.

The House at 5.15 passed the Chinese bill without amendment—yeas 77, nays 65.

AUSTIN, Texas, 23.—The State purchased from the estate of the late Charles Morgan, of New York, \$442,000 of its own bonds paying for them \$1.40. The bonds were due in 1904, with interest at 7 per cent. This makes a reduction of the State debt for the past 12 months of over \$1,000,000, leaving it something less than \$4,000,000.

CINCINNATI, 23.—Col. James Van Vleet, United States army, is lying at the residence of his wife, Newport, Ky., in a critical condition from injury received in Texas. He was on his way to Denver, Colorado, to join his command, and shortly after reaching Concho, becoming suspicious of two fellow travellers inside the coach, got out to ride with the driver. Going down a hill the driver called out to him to be careful. From that moment the Col. remembers nothing; but last Wednesday his wife got a telegram saying he would be home next morning. He has no recollection of sending such a telegram. When he reached Newport he was in a semi-unconscious condition, his lower jaw was broken, neck and head lacerated and clothing torn and muddy. The theory of his friends here is that he was lassoed but as he was not robbed and as he was brought by some one to Abilene, Texas, who reported that he said he had been thrown from the coach and dragged by the horses.

MILWAUKEE, 22.—Last night, Ripon, Wisconsin, was visited with the largest conflagration ever had there. At 12 o'clock, midnight, a fire broke out in G. Hebes' furniture store, and spread so rapidly that the fire company was powerless, and all the west side of the public square is a mass of ruins. The loss is about \$150,000. No heavy losses.

VICKSBURG, 23.—At Briarland, a plantation owned by G. W. Williams, a large cotton gin, in which a great number of negroes had taken refuge, was blown down on Sunday night during a violent storm, and 10 or 12 persons killed and a large number injured.

WASHINGTON, 23.—Shepherd produced a copy of his letter to the President, of May 21st, and explained it had been sent to him by his son who had been requested to make a copy from his letter book, and that he (Shepherd) after a critical examination, was prepared to say it was a correct copy. The letter was read by the clerk. It was quite long, and rehearsed in detail the claims and plans of the Peruvian company. The letter referred to enclosures naming the prospectus of the company, the draft of agreement with Peru, the claim of title of the Peruvian company, and stated it was deemed best to lay the whole matter before the President, and to avail of such suggestions as he might deem proper to make in the premises; that no difficulty was anticipated in settlement of differences without asking further government aid than that already indicated. It spoke of the magnitude of the interests involved, and estimated the value of guano at \$1,000,000,000, and indicated that he expected Grant would be president of the company, and that its board of directors would include gentlemen equally well known at the capital. At the conclusion of the reading, Shepherd said he had been engaged in a lively flirtation with neuralgia, which had

deprived him of rest, and unfitted him for fatigue; he would, therefore, crave the indulgence of the committee, and asked to be excused for the day. Adjourned.

The Senate confirmed A. L. Morrison, of Illinois, United States Marshal for New Mexico.

Nominations:—John H. Smith, of North Carolina, Minister resident and Consul General of the United States to Liberia; Emory P. Blanchamp, of Indiana, United States Consul at Fort Gale; James W. Wilson, of Missouri, United States Consul at Three Rivers, Quebec.

The minority report of the House Committee says the effort to secure the a mission of Dakota as a State was purely a political movement, stated exclusively in the interest of certain politicians who are seeking to accomplish their ambitious designs, and that of those who appeared in Washington in behalf of its admission, not one was an agriculturist. The indications are the admission of Dakota will become a party question with the Democrats solidly opposed.

The President approved the anti polygamy bill.

Among the changes of station of the quartermaster's department recommended by Gen. Ingalls, a Saxon from the Division of the Pacific to Jeffersonville, Hodgson from Arizona to San Francisco, Batchelder from San Francisco to Washington. There recommendations have not yet been approved by the Secretary of War, and there are efforts being made to change some assignments.

MEMPHIS, 23.—The river is still falling, but the distress continues great.

New Orleans, 23.—Water from Landro Crevasse is reported as encroaching on the plantations in St. James parish. Live Oak Grove Crevasse is probably closed. Breaks are reported at Hoge's Point, also the old race course levee, Port Coupe parish. The Airline levee not yet out of the hands of the contractors. It is expected it will be almost entirely destroyed. It was 14,130 feet long and from 7 to 13 feet high. These crevasses will contribute largely to flood Bayou, Macon, Tensas, Black and Atchafalaya rivers, until a decline of 10 feet takes place in the Mississippi River.

Members of the exchanges and business men generally have formed a committee for systematic relief. Contributions will be solicited throughout the city.

NEW YORK, 23.—Postmaster General Howe was interviewed this morning regarding the proposed reduction of time in sending mails, and from New York and San Francisco and other western points. "I have a hope," said Howe, "if Congress makes the appropriations proposed by the Senate for special facilities for transportation of mails on trunk lines, that we may arrange a schedule which will send the mail from New York to the West at San Francisco, and get a return three days less than it takes now. It takes 13 days to do the now. Mails are carried on all railway trains and go where passengers go. This subjects mails to slow time and frequent delays. The mail for the West lies in Chicago about four hours and in Omaha and Kansas about three hours more. The railroad companies themselves will have been consulted as to the method of overcoming these delays, whether it shall be done by chartering a fast train between New York and Denver overtaking the Union Pacific 24 hours ahead of present time, or whether it shall be done by expediting all passenger trains between here and the Pacific are questions to be answered only by the railroad companies themselves. The public ought to have service. The Department wants to supply it. If appropriation suggested will pay it, the time of trains, and time of transportation of mails to the Pacific will have to connect at Chicago with the railroad schedule. In Boston at our meeting it was the opinion that the one fast mail train mentioned should start from New York. The only time it can start is in the morning about 4.30 o'clock arriving in San Francisco at 7 a.m. five days later. We don't care to send mail matter to Chicago in less than 24 hours. My theory is to take the backbone of the establishment of fast mail service on the trunk lines between the two oceans, and then put on attachments for improvements as fast as we can.

In regard to the Peruvian Company investigation, Collector Robertson said this morning: I have read the testimony given by Shep-