

By Telegraph.

AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 2.

The sleighing is excellent here. There has been no such fall of snow since 1857.

NEW YORK, 2.—The snow storm throughout the Eastern States is the heaviest for several years.

At a meeting of passenger agents held in this city, to-day, the following advance in passenger rates was determined on by the trunk lines: New York to Cleveland \$8 to \$11; Toledo, \$10 to \$13.50; Detroit \$10 to \$12; Chicago \$13 to \$18; St. Louis \$17 to \$23.

The *Times* Washington special says the large falling off in the customs during the month accounts for the increase in debt. Had it not been for the large reductions in the current expenditures during the present fixed year, the exhibit would be several millions worse than it now is. Also the large falling off in internal revenue receipts, and the fact that the Treasury now holds nearly fifty million dollars in gold on deposit, subject to calls, shows the extent to which the business of the country is depressed. The 4 per cent. refunding loan makes its appearance for the first time on the debt statement for December. The amount of these bonds reported is \$33,000,000.

KEY WEST, 2.—The steamship *Emile* sank last night in six fathoms of water. One man and an infant were lost, and a boat load of passengers are missing. The mails are lost.

CHICAGO, 2.—Mr. Moody suggests that every Sunday school in the country take up a penny collection on Sunday, January 14th, for the maintenance, education and benefit of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Bliss, and for the erection of a monument to the memory of the sweet singers to whom all our Sunday Schools are so deeply indebted. The money should be sent to Henry Field, Treasurer, Chicago.

NEW ORLEANS, 2.—In the joint session of the republican legislature, Burch read the returning board's returns, and announced that Packard and Antoine were elected.

In the democratic legislature a resolution was introduced to notify the President that that body had organized and the meeting declared Nicholls and Wiltz elected.

Before the Senate committee a number of colored witnesses testified concerning the bad character of Eliza Pinkston.

A committee from the Senate, to-day, waited upon Secretary of State Desmonde and asked for the official returns of the State election. Desmonde declined to recognize them, and said the law directed him to furnish them to the Speaker of the House, which he had done.

RICHMOND, Va., 2.—There is from fourteen to twenty inches of snow in the western part of the State. Trains are snow bound on most of the roads.

COLUMBUS, 2.—The Assembly organized to-day, and Hayes read his message showing Ohio's local indebtedness to be \$86,000,000. The State debt has been reduced the past year nearly \$1,500,000. The message says while political parties seem necessary in national affairs, yet in municipal matters there is no reason for political antagonisms. It expresses satisfaction at Ohio's display at the Centennial and the general prosperity of the State, and makes several recommendations, including one that a registration law should be passed and a constitutional amendment for holding State elections in the year in which the presidential election occurs.

ASHTABULA, 2.—Henry A. White, a passenger in the sleeping car, testified before the Coroner's jury that he thought the train was off the track before they began to go down. He estimated the number of passengers at 300.

Daniel McGuire, engineer of the first engine, heard the bridge snap behind him when he was within two car lengths of the abutments. He says that his engine had to run up hill to get off the bridge. Could give no information whatever about the wreck or incidents of the fire, although he was there some time.

CHEYENNE, 2.—The infantry of General Crook's expedition will arrive at Fort Laramie to-morrow, also Gen. McKenzie with the cavalry and artillery, and the whole force will be disbanded at that post.

NEW YORK, 3.—The *Times* Potts-

ville, Pa., special says yesterday a fire, which threatens to be even more serious in its consequences than is usual with colliery fires, broke out in the deep workings of the Lykers Valley mines, thirty miles west of this place. There are four collieries all connected by underground passages, together. Their workings form one of the longest subterranean galleries in the world, having a continuous communication of about ten miles in a straight line. They produce the well known Lykers Valley coal, soft semi-anthracite, which burns readily, to the quality of which the rapid spread of the fire is doubtless owing. The miners all escaped. Eighty-five mules perished. Even if the fire is under control, the mines must be closed for weeks, disemploying five hundred men.

The *Herald* reporter interviewed W. A. Wheeler, now stopping in New York upon the subject of a compromise. Wheeler said the idea was absurd. The suffrages of the American people cannot be bartered or dickered. How can constitutional requirements be forestalled by agreements or bargains? Wheeler solemnly declared he believed he was elected, but would yield peacefully if it was otherwise decided. Touching Oregon, he said it is not worthy of serious consideration. The face of Cronin's certificate shows that three republican electors were chosen by the people, and two being a majority, they could legally fill the vacancy by the appointment of another.

The *Herald's* Washington special says the temper of both parties is getting better. Bayard and Lamar emphatically deny that they would refuse supplies to Hayes if the latter was elected. Lamar said such an action would be an unconstitutional, unjustifiable and revolutionary proceeding.

The *Times* says another complication has arisen regarding the will of the late A. T. Stewart, which people supposed was settled. This time the papers come directly from Ireland, and the claimants set forth in affidavits thereto, that they are first cousins to the late Stewart. The papers are in the hands of L. Kneeland & Carter, and have not yet been filed in court. They have no connection whatever with the claim of the Baileys of Brooklyn, although the same branch of the Stewart family is represented.

NEW YORK, 3.—The President's idea of disposing of the surplus of the Geneva award is as follows: He contemplates sending a message to Congress at an early day, suggesting the propriety of investing this money in securities of the United States and devoting the interest of it to the payment of subsidies to American shipbuilders with the view of restoring American commerce to the position which it held previous to the war, and the depredations upon it of the cruisers fitted out in British ports. He thinks if this plan is adopted a stimulus will be given to American ship building, and that in less than ten years the carrying trade of the United States will, in a great measure, be restored to American bottoms.

Excitement exists here among the Cubans on the rumor that the mail steamer *Nuevo Cubano*, plying between the Island of Pinaros and Batabano, south shore of Cuba, has been captured in a similar fashion to the *Mocetzuma*. The run between these points is generally made in twelve hours, and at last accounts the *Nuevo Cubano* had been out five days. She had on board a large number of political prisoners, who were being sent from the Island of Pinaros to work at reconstructing the Trocha in the Central department.

Three former employees of Dodd's Express Co. were arrested to-day, charged with cutting the mail bags and abstracting letters.

ALBANY, 3.—Boss Tweed is utterly broken down at last, and ready to make any terms to bring his troubles to an end. It may safely be predicted that he will surrender all the property still within his control, and make a clean breast of the whole ring business to some prudent and trust-worthy representative of the prosecution.

TALLAHASSEE, 3.—The inauguration of Governor Drew took place yesterday. The legislature is organized in both branches, which are both democratic.

DETROIT, 3.—The strike of the engine drivers on the Grand Trunk Railway, ended late last night, all the members of the brotherhood resuming their old positions.

NEW ORLEANS, 3.—The House committee, by a party vote, reported president Orton, of the W. U. Telegraph Co., to the House as in contempt, in refusing to answer the second subpoena.

LYKERS, Pa., 3.—The mines here have been burning since Monday and are now caving in. It is believed all the miners escaped.

LYKERS, Pa., 3.—The only means of stopping the fire in the mines is to flood them, which has already been undertaken. The mules have been found to be alive. About 800 men are thrown out of employment. A year's work will be required to repair the damage.

KEY WEST, 3.—Two of the missing crew of the sunken steam *Emilie* have been picked up by a boat in the harbor key, one being insane from his sufferings. One passenger, Dr. Hernenegildo Rodriguez De Alvareza, Brazilian commissioner to the Centennial, has been saved. The search will continue.

ASHTABULA, 3.—By the finding of papers and scraps of clothing among the debris, to-day, the following named persons were known to have been on the wrecked train: Miss Charlotte N. Smith, Rondout, N. Y.; Miss Martha Ann Smith, Rondout, N. Y.; J. W. Smith, Toronto, Ont. There was also identified among the bodies at the freight house, Mrs. Elizabeth Kopper, Chippewa, Ont. The only relics found to-day, besides those mentioned, were some pocket knives. It is probable that to-morrow will finish the clearing away of the wreck and the search for the missing. The list now stands as follows: Number of passengers on the train 128; number of employees on the train 19; total 147. Rescued passengers 63; employees 9; total 72. Died since: passengers 3; employees 1; total 4. Names of the known rescued 72; lost 70; unaccounted for 5.

NEWARK, 3.—The Presbytery, to-day, by a vote of 16 to 12, found the Rev. Mr. Lee guilty of violating the scriptures by allowing women to preach in his pulpit.

YANKTON, 3.—In the United States Court, to-day, John McCall, convicted of the murder of Wild Bill, was sentenced by Chief Justice Shannon to be hanged on March 1st. He will carry the case to the Supreme Court. The only ground of defense is that he was intoxicated so as to be unconscious of the act.

WASHINGTON, 3.—Ex-assistant District Attorney Chas. G. Fisher, recently convicted of abstracting court papers, was sentenced, to-day, to eleven months in the common jail.

Cronin's examination, and telegraph manager Turner's refusal to testify before the Senate committee, have furnished to-day a sensation in Washington, and are tonight the chief topics of comment. Cronin failed to make a good appearance on the witness stand, his manner being very self-conscious, and at times both defiant and pompous. His testimony contradicted the concurrent evidence of all the republican witnesses in every important particular, but on cross-examination he several times contradicted himself in regard to minor matters and details. For instance, he testified on the direct examination, that he was a little angry by Patrick's telling him he could get anything he wanted from Tilden, if Tilden was elected by his instrumentality, but under Morton's cross-examination, shortly afterwards, he said Patrick's suggestion did not offend him at all. Being questioned whether he thought it was right to withhold the certificates when the majority of the college demanded them, he seemed to fall off his guard and inadvertently answered that he did not consider it a question of right, but one of expediency. Cronin's acknowledgment that he received \$3,000, nominally for his expenses, created much significant comment, and Morton's questions, which Turner refused to answer, very plainly indicated that the republicans expect to prove the corrupt use of at least \$25,000, of which this is conjectured to be a part.

A number of other witnesses will be summoned on this branch of inquiry, including probably the New York and Oregon bankers named in Morton's leading questions. It is also understood that determined efforts will be made to get at the facts regarding the alleged telegrams sent to the Pacific coast from the east by ex-Senator Gwin.

CHEYENNE, 3.—Restoration of

man gives the following details of Crook's return:

Fetterman, Dec. 23, 1876.

Crook's command reached here to-day. The campaign is closed, the hostiles being too distant to be reached in this weather. The command reached Belle Fourche on Dec. 22d, in very severe weather. On Christmas the mercury froze in bulb. The animals suffered for want of forage, and a number of mules were turned loose. The forage train was met at Wind River Creek. Last night the Sioux and Arapahoe scouts left for Red Cloud.

On the 22d Col. Randall, with seventy Crows, met the column near Pumpkin Buttes, but as their services were not required they were sent back. They report that the destruction of the Cheyenne village by McKenzie created a general stampede. Trails were passed leading in various directions, showing that the Indians were scattering.

Crazy Horse is on the Little Missouri.

General Crook is satisfied with the results of the campaign, as it has kept the Indians on the move in dead winter. He expresses the opinion that the hostiles will not stand another campaign. Friendly Indians with a small column of troops will finish the matter. There is every reason to believe a large force can be raised among the surrounding tribes when spring opens.

NEW YORK, 4.—The *Commercial Advertiser* says a brother of Miss May, to whom Jas. Gordon Bennett was engaged, but which was broken off yesterday, after Bennett was assaulted with a club, striking him on the head, which so stunned him that he fell. He recovered himself and wrestled the club from May, when a tussle took place between them, Bennett dealing May some very heavy blows. They were finally separated, neither party being much injured.

NEW YORK, 4.—The city was considerably excited last night over the Bennett scandal. Several versions of the matter are afloat, and the reason of the assault is not absolutely known. The *Times* has several columns, from which the following are extracts: May provided himself with a cowhide and lay in wait for Bennett in front of the Union Club. On the latter's appearance he was assaulted, beaten, and thrown down. The accounts are somewhat conflicting on the point as to whether Bennett offered any resistance or not. The *fraeas* was witnessed by a number of persons, including several members of the Union Club and other gentlemen who were in the neighborhood, and were attracted by the occurrence to the scene of action. Tidings of the affair spread rapidly, and before evening formed the prominent and almost sole topic of conversation at many clubs and houses.

Another report says May had no stick or weapon of any kind in his hands, except a light whip which he had brought with him for the purpose of giving Bennett a public flogging. The moment May struck Bennett, the latter, without making the slightest attempt to ward off the blows, opened both his coats, as May supposed, to draw a weapon from his pocket. Seeing this movement on the part of Bennett, May struck at him with his clenched fist and knocked him down on the sidewalk, and then deliberately sat down on him for a moment, but did not strike him while he was down. Bennett got up and faced his antagonist, and again May knocked him down. May would not have struck Bennett in the first instance with his fists were it not that he believed the latter was about to draw a revolver on him. When Bennett had been cowed and knocked down twice, Heckler stepped in and said, "That is sufficient." He then separated the combatants. May buttoned up his coat and walked down the avenue while Bennett was taken away from the scene of the encounter by his friends.

The *World* says Bennett called at Dr. May's house on Tuesday and had a most unpleasant altercation with Dr. May, in the course of which he used language which Mr. Frederic May, on hearing of it yesterday morning, felt bound to resent as he did.

Latest.—Bennet has sent May a challenge to fight, which event is expected to come off on the banks of the Chesapeake.

Because of the heavy bodies of floating ice, the Brooklyn ferries are all stopped, and will remain so

during the flood tide. This created an untold inconvenience, thousands not being able to get home.

Business men representing \$100,000,000 of the capital, propose that government relinquish its \$1,500,000 of the stock in the Centennial.

The *World's* Washington special says Grover arrived to-night. In conversation this evening he expressed his anxiety to go before the committee at the earliest possible moment, prepared to testify in the fullest manner of the clear legality of his position.

Relative to the removal of arms from the St. Louis to the Rock Island arsenal, the President told an interviewer, according to the *World's* Washington special, that it is true. "Did not Buchanan fill the arsenals of the south during the last months of his administration? Well, I am going to fill the arsenals of the north during the last months of my term." The President seemed to be in great earnestness, and thought the change a matter of proper public reprobation.

A gang of mail robbers were unearthed in the city yesterday, after a long search, by detectives. Their headquarters was at 11 Prince St. Several were arrested, including a courtesan named Collins. Abundant evidence to convict has been secured.

Commodore Vanderbilt died at 10:50 this morning.

Commodore Vanderbilt remained perfectly conscious to the last moment of his life, and died almost without a struggle. Ever since Tuesday it has been apparent that he could last only a few days. At four o'clock this morning his condition became rapidly worse, and he expressed a desire to see the Rev. Dr. Deems, his spiritual adviser. The latter arrived in a few minutes and, Commodore Vanderbilt said, "I think I am nearly gone, doctor." Dr. Deems prayed by the bed side of the dying man, and then some of the members of the family sang a few hymns in low tones. The music seemed to soothe the sufferer. All his family were sent for during the night, and when he died they were at his bed side. Wm. H. Vanderbilt arrived soon after midnight and remained to the end. All his daughters and his wife were present. The news of his death spread rapidly, and very many friends called at the house this morning and sympathized with the mourners. Cornelius Vanderbilt, jr., arrived just before his father died. The funeral will take place on Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

The news of the Commodore's death has little effect on the market, his death having been so long expected. Commodore Vanderbilt was the owner of securities having a present market value of about \$85,000,000, and that of this total, fully \$55,000,000 consisted of stock of the New York Central and Hudson. It is understood that the bulk of this property is to be kept together, and that provision has been made for reinvesting the accruing interest on it in his favorite securities. As soon as the news had been received at the City Hall the flags were lowered at half mast, a course which was soon after followed by the principal hotels and other public buildings.

HARRISBURG, Pa., 4.—Samuel S. Bigler, late president of the City Bank of Harrisburg, which suspended several months ago, together with his two sons, have been arrested on charges of conspiracy to defraud and of obtaining money under false pretences. The bank failed with liabilities \$350,000, while the assets are about \$70,000.

INDIANAPOLIS, 4.—Both branches of the General Assembly convened this morning.

AUGUSTA, Maine, 4.—Hon. Jas. G. Blaine was nominated by the republican legislature in caucus this evening for the short term in the United States Senate, and also for the full term of six years, beginning March 4, 1877. Both nominations were made by acclamation and amid great display of enthusiasm, every one of the 140 members present rising when the question was submitted. This is the first time a candidate for senator in Maine was ever nominated by acclamation at his first election, and this exceptional method was selected as a special and emphatic compliment. Blaine's name was presented to the caucus by General Hyde, President of the Senate, and seconded by Mr. Neally, Speaker of the House. Several eulogistic speeches were made in addition by