

## BY TELEGRAPH.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

## AMERICAN.

NEO YORK, 15.—The *Freeman*, the colored people's newspaper here, will publish to-morrow an open letter to the democratic party, written by Geo. T. Downey, a well-known colored man. Following is the text:

To Hon. Wm. Dorsheimer, Dudley D. Field, Algernon S. Sullivan, R. R. Pryor and Joseph Sultzer:

Gentlemen—I take the liberty to address you this open letter because you are democrats and have influence with your party, and because I believe your devotion to pure democratic principles will admit of your advocating that the democratic party shall henceforth favor the recognition of the colored element of the land as it has not heretofore done. I refer with some pride to the fact that my better judgment prompted me to efforts toward bringing about such a condition of public affairs as would warrant a division of the colored vote, and that they have not been fruitless. I regard the election of Hon. Grover Cleveland to the Presidency as a happy event. It affords an opportunity for the democratic party to encourage a consistent and just policy toward the colored man which I believe, will be taken advantage of. This belief arises from expressions already made by the President-elect, from encouraging declarations unexpectedly given by Hon. Thos. A. Hendricks from the significant stand taken in Congress by such a number of democrats on O'Hara's amendment to the Reagan inter-State commerce bill, from the position affecting the civil right of colored men taken by Mr. Cleveland as Governor of the State of New York, and of the similar stand taken by a number of other Democratic Governors, because our material interests prompt to such a line of policy, and because it is just. A number of circumstances are having the effect to arouse the colored people from the intoxication as to party that has been upon them; they will be enabled in the future to discriminate and use more judgment as to men, partisan policies and acts. Encourage them. There are democrats who are as much disposed to deal fairly by the colored man as are others, but who have been unfortunately hampered and restrained by an element within the party which has caused the party to be distrusted and passed by for at least 24 long years by a majority of our people. This element of the party cannot in good faith expect the more liberal division to make further sacrifices or adhere to the policy of the past, not suited to the present state of affairs.

This advance is made to you, gentlemen, not to concede any right, but because you are the representatives of a portion of the democratic party, which is in power, and I feel warranted in appealing to it. I do so because a crisis is upon parties; because the democratic party is in a more mellow mood touching the interests of the colored man than it has exhibited within my day, and because I have never been a slave to party.

The colored vote may be won, which is better than to intimidate it. That which is necessary thereto does not call for a change varying from what has become, I may say, to some extent, crystallized into custom or law, beyond what has been conceded to be just. It involves no disregard of vested interests, proprietary claim or the invasion of any private or domiciliary right. What is necessary is respect for common or public rights, regard for merit and literary attainments, respect irrespective of color, for proper feelings, including natural and just aspirations. It does not involve domination, because of color, by white or colored. I hope for fair play. Certainly my white fellow-citizen, who has had the advantage of centuries of culture and domination, and who is wealthy, will not be restrained from acting justly, through any thought of the black man, in a free and equitable field, becoming master of the situation. Distrust of the democratic party has been felt by the colored man, and not by him alone. It threw the party out of power in 1860 on issues involving the colored man's rights. It is about to be reinstated. May its new advent to power be for the best interests of all citizens alike.

In conclusion he says: Therefore, may we not hope, among other things, that a few competent colored persons may be appointed to some prominent positions of honor and trust in the North? It would have a happy effect; it would have a mollifying influence upon the whites of the South, tending toward a fuller acceptance of the results of the war; it would elevate, attract and feed patriotism in the colored man.

Gentlemen, believing that the incoming administration may relieve the country from this embarrassing and exciting question and leave the colored people more free to consider their material interests and questions of public policy, may I beg of you to give your enlightened influence in that direction.

NEW YORK, 15.—The Erie railway and other trunk lines from New York announce a reduction in emigrant fare from New York to Chicago from \$13 to \$8, with proportionate reductions to other Western points. Reduced fares will be authorized to ocean steamship lines and booking agents for use in America and Europe until further advised.

vised. This action was taken as an offset to the reduction in emigrant fare recently made by the Grand Trunk Railway from Quebec and Portland to the West in connection with the Allen and Dominion steamship lines.

CHICAGO, 15.—A. B. Campbell, claiming to be a nephew of Sir Alexander Campbell, the Canadian minister of justice, is being held in secret custody here by James E. Stuart, Canadian Government special agent, on the charge of robbing the Dominion mails to a heavy amount. The prisoner, who is 26 years of age, and who recently resigned a responsible position in the Canadian mail service, was arrested Wednesday in open Board of Trade, and has since been locked up in a private room. For a long time the disappearance of large sums puzzled the Canadian officials, and the services of detectives seemed unavailing. The fact that Campbell was gambling and speculating here on a large scale was a shadow of a clue. It is charged, also, that Campbell, by a chemical process, effaced the marks of the cancellers from a great number of old bank notes which had been entrusted to the mails, and since his arrival in Chicago obtained their original value in American currency. When arrested he had \$18,000 on his person. Extradition papers are expected to-morrow.

NEW YORK, 15.—The suit of Elizabeth A. Paton, executrix, against Collis P. Huntington, railroad millionaire, was begun to-day. Counsel for plaintiff, in opening, said plaintiff was executrix of Thomas Paton, who died in 1874. In his lifetime Mr. Paton was a partner of David Stewart. Huntington was one of the projectors of the Central Pacific Railroad. Paton became the purchaser of 100 shares of the stock of this road, and held it until April 20, 1870. Huntington was anxious to purchase his stock and that of Mr. Stewart. He did so on the understanding that if he purchased any other stock at a higher rate he would pay to Paton and others the difference. Paton received about \$13,000 for his stock, and claims that Huntington violated his contract. Defendant did not deny making the promises, but says they are not in writing. He claims that he promised to pay Paton as much for his stock as he paid for any other stock he might purchase in New York, and not elsewhere.

PITTSBURG, 15.—Oliver Brothers & Phillips and Oliver & Roberts, wire company, limited, have issued the following card to their creditors: "We are compelled to suspend payments, and purpose calling immediately a meeting of those interested, to whom we believe we can show assets amply sufficient, with some indulgence, to pay every dollar of our liabilities." The report of the embarrassment of Oliver Brothers & Phillips, the greatest iron firm in the city, when all its connections are considered, flew about like wildfire and set the town agog with excitement. It is impossible to state the liabilities of the firm, which are reported at from three to five millions. Local bankers say there is a million or a million and a half of paper held here, with good collateral for almost all of it. Large blocks of paper are held in the Eastern States, as far east as Massachusetts, while very large sums are carried in New York and Philadelphia.

The suspension was quietly discussed among iron men and in financial circles. It created no surprise, as several of the manufacturers had an inkling that something was going to happen. As a rule they refused to talk on its effects on the iron trade. The general opinion prevailed, however, that the firm will resume business very soon after they have made arrangements with their creditors. "All they want," said a leading manufacturer, who requested that his name should not be used, "is an extension of time. They have valuable property and plenty of men are ready and willing to advance them money. The supposition is that the suspension is only temporary. The price of iron is so low at present that it don't pay to work it."

There is nothing new to-night regarding the liabilities, and the cause of suspension is still a mystery to all save those directly interested. It is the general impression, however, that the liabilities will reach five million dollars, with assets of about a million more.

NEW YORK 15.—It was officially announced, shortly after the close of business, that the old banking firm of John J. Cisco & Son had made an assignment to Lewis May, formerly of the firm of May & King, bankers, who is also assignee of Halstead, Harness & Co., which concern suspended some months ago. The firm was intimately connected financially for many years with the Louisville and Nashville and Houston and Texas Central Railway companies. Owing to the shrinkage of the above securities, reports were started several days ago that the firm was embarrassed. Although the reports affecting its credit were denied at the time, they led to a steady and increasing run by depositors, and it was deemed best, for the benefit of all creditors, to make an assignment without preferences for the purpose of gradual liquidation. It is generally believed that the matter is rather in the nature of liquidation than failure, as it is stated that all depositors will be paid in full as soon as securities can be realized upon. No statement has yet been made up. The present partners are John A. Cisco, son of John Cisco, and F. A. Foote. The late Jno. Cisco, was for a long period, Treasurer of the United States at New York. All the money deposited with the firm to-day will be returned to-morrow.

FORT WAYNE, 15.—Up to a late hour to-night the situation as regards the striking railroad brakemen in this city remains practically unchanged. No movement has been made to-day looking toward a movement of the freight trains. The strikers hold absolute sway over the yards of the Pittsburgh and Grand Rapids and Indiana railroads. They keep a patrol moving upon shifting engines from the East yards to Grand Rapids Junction, a distance of two miles, in order to head off any movement of the officials towards starting the trains. The strikers have, since the strike, been holding meetings in a caboose near Lafayette Street, inside the city limits, but to-day they decided to move into more commodious quarters. They therefore appropriated a passenger coach and placed it next their caboose, and will hereafter hold their star chamber sessions in the coach, while the caboose will be used as a reception room.

Supt. Law says he has called upon the city and county authorities for protection, but for some unexplainable reason, no aid has been rendered. It is thought to-night that some arrests will be made to-morrow, but nothing definite is known. Meanwhile, the yards of the company are blocked with loaded freight cars, many of them perishable goods. The strikers doggedly assert that not a wheel shall turn until the obnoxious "double-header" system is abolished.

It is supposed the firemen will join the striking brakemen to-morrow. The pay car is due to-morrow.

NEW YORK, 15.—The Eastern Pig-iron Association met to-day in the Astor House with President Eckert in the chair. Representatives were present from cities of the East, Madison, Wisconsin, and other places. A committee on organization was appointed. The draft of a constitution was presented for consideration by the committee, in which it was proposed that the name of the association be the "American Tariff Club." Its objects are to promote the general adoption of protection to American industry in all its branches. A board of directors shall represent the various business interests of the country.

At the evening session a constitution was adopted. It provides that the organization shall be known as the "American Protective Tariff Association," and its object shall be the protection and development of American industries in all branches of trade. All persons favoring a protective tariff are eligible to membership. Besides the usual officers, there will be 100 directors to represent the various industries. The annual meeting is fixed for the third Wednesday in September. The following resolution was adopted: "That the Association is opposed to the importation of foreign labor under contract," and ordered sent to Senator Blair, chairman of the Senate committee on labor.

UTICA, N. Y., 16.—W. Druse, a farmer in moderate circumstances living in the town of Warren, Herkimer County, has been missing a month. Suspicions of murder were caused by quarrels between him and his wife. For several days it was rumored that Druse had been murdered by his wife, his body cut up and burned and the bones put into the swamp. An axe owned by Druse was found in Weatherbee's pond on Saturday, rolled in paper. A nephew of Mrs. Druse, named Gates, aged 18, having been "squeezed" by the neighbors, confessed that Mrs. Druse shot her husband while she and her son went out and put a rope around his (Gates') neck and compelled him to shoot Druse also. They burned the body and buried the bones. An odor of burning flesh was noticed December 18th. Mrs. Druse and Gates are under arrest.

The District Attorney and coroner are conducting the examination into the murder of Wm. Druse, the farmer, murdered by his wife, in the town of Warren, four miles from Richfield Springs. Frank Gates aged 14 a nephew of Druse, living in the family, made an artless confession, showing that the crime was committed Dec. 10th, and that Mrs. Druse compelled him to shoot her husband a second time and aid her to dispose of the body. They boiled it and fed the flesh to hogs, and burned the bones, the ashes of which were buried in a swamp. The boy said the woman cut her husband's head off and put it first in the stove. The boy acted as fireman, and had a terrible time destroying all evidence of the crime. Neighbors, who noticed the unusual smoke and odor, were refused admittance, and papers were kept over the windows. Since then the house has been repapered.

FORT WAYNE, 16.—At 3 o'clock this afternoon a third unsuccessful attempt was made by the Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne & Chicago railroad officials to move the freight trains blocked here by reason of the brakemen's strike against the "double-header" system of running freight trains. Supt. Law, together with Master Engineer Polhamus, attempted to take an engine from the round house to attach it to a freight train they wished to send East. The strikers allowed them to take the engine and run it outside the round house, when one of the several strikers upon the engine laid hold of the whistle and blew it vigorously. This signal for aid was responded to quickly by other strikers scattered in and around the yards of the company, guarding switches, etc. They compelled Mr. Polhamus, who had hold of the throttle of the engine, to give place to a striker, while the others assisted Polhamus to dismount. The engine was

returned to the round house and her fires drawn.

An Associated Press reporter called upon the strikers this afternoon and interviewed their leader in car 60. He said:

"We are peaceable men, who desire to destroy no property or to harm any one, but we will not allow a 'double-header' to leave Fort Wayne under any circumstances. If we submit to double-headers, it throws many men who have families dependent upon them out of work, and those who do work cannot live upon the wages they can earn. Business is light, and a brakeman, under the double-header system, cannot make more than one round trip per week, which would make his pay \$4.80 per week. In an hour I can call to my aid 1,400 men. I do not think this will be done unless an attempt is made to use force in starting the double-headers. We have received many offers of pecuniary aid, but have declined them so far."

Late this afternoon Mayor Zollinger issued a proclamation calling upon the striking brakemen to cease interfering with the railroad company's movement of trains, and warning all persons who had no legal right upon the grounds of the railroad company to leave them, quoting the penalty for interfering with the railroad company in its business, etc. Just what effect this proclamation will have upon the strikers remains to be seen. The railroad officials say this evening that they have nothing to say further than that the situation remains unchanged.

Columbus, O., 16.—Reports from Hocking Valley this evening are of mysterious movements going on among the miners between one village and the other. A general feeling of uneasiness prevails. Assistant Adjutant General Dill returned to-day from making a visit to the miners of Straitsville, Nelsonville, and along the Sunday Creek branch of the Hocking Valley railway. He reports Monday and Sunday Creeks on the rampage, and water spreading over the valley. This, he thinks, will prevent an outbreak of hostilities for several days, and he also ventures the opinion that the action of the Legislature authorizing an official investigation will have a restraining influence. Col. Dill reported his investigation to the Governor and Adjutant General Findlay this evening. They refuse to divulge anything, but the impression prevails that a small force of troops will be stationed at Straitsville to prevent trouble.

CINCINNATI, 16.—The rain of the past forty hours changed to sleet this afternoon, and to-night it is snowing. The Ohio river has risen two feet in the past twenty-four hours, and to-night it is 34 feet 4 inches, and rising rapidly. It is hardly believed, however, that a serious flood will ensue, as no reports have reached here of snow at the headwaters, such as has preceded previous high water.

NEW ORLEANS, 16.—The *Picayune's* Shreveport special says: The weather is the coldest of the season—19 above zero. There was a heavy snowstorm in the forenoon. The river has risen one foot and a tenth since yesterday. Several planters from below have brought stock here; others are retreating to the hills for safety. The lakes and bayous are booming, and the people are seeking higher ground. All the railways are submerged. Trains from New Orleans due yesterday morning arrived this afternoon. The Vicksburg train was stopped by a washout near Monroe.

CHICAGO, 16.—Owing to the snow, trains range from one to nine hours behind time; fast mails are generally two and three hours late. The situation is worse southeast and east. A passenger train coming this way on the Chicago, Lafayette and Cincinnati road was, when last heard of, locked in drifts at St. Anne. Another passenger train on the Louisville and New Albany, due here this evening is caught in a snowbank a few miles from the city, and the people on board will probably bivouac in the coaches all night. Shortly after midnight the temperature which had previously been comparatively comfortable, began a rapid descent, and is now near zero, and the snow that recommenced Thursday night is still falling. Reports from all points in the Northwest and East indicate unusual snowstorms and cold weather, which had disabled railways and telegraph lines.

SAN FRANCISCO, 16.—Wright Leroy was hanged to-day at 12.30. On Aug. 13, 1883, he decoyed Nicholas Skerrett, an aged capitalist, whom he had personally known for a long time, into one of Skerrett's empty houses, on the plea that he (Leroy) wanted to rent it. While inside he told Skerrett he would kill him unless he gave him a check for a large sum of money. Skerrett refused. Leroy then knocked him down, seized him by the throat, and, while continuing his threats, choked him to death. He observed a firm demeanor on the scaffold, and asserted his innocence to the last. His neck was broken in jail.

Edwardsville, Ills., 16.—Wm. Felix Henry (colored) was executed here to-day for the murder of Henry Ross and Henry Depugh, both colored. Ross and Depugh were single men, and were found murdered in their house at Rocky Fort, about six miles from Alton, in March, 1883. The deed was traced to Henry, who was arrested, convicted and afterward confessed.

PHILADELPHIA, 16.—"No," said Secretary James Swank, of the American Iron and Steel Association, to-day, "I do not look for any failure in the eastern iron trade, as the outcome of the failure of Oliver Bros. & Phillips, of Pittsburg. Philadelphia makers have

no business relations with the Pittsburg manufacturers. The two trades are quite distinct. We do not send iron there; they do not send iron here. The failure, however, must have a dispiriting effect upon the iron business generally, and how far that will go is a question which I cannot answer. It comes at a particularly bad time, as you will see. People were just beginning to look for a revival in business, confidence was gradually returning, and the hope was that the worst was over. Now, this throws everything back where it was before, and we see that after all, the bottom has not been reached. Oliver Bros. were interested in several large concerns. Their rolling mills produced more iron than those of any other concern in the United States, and the capital invested was very extensive."

PITTSBURG, 17.—D. W. C. Carroll has made an assignment of all his property, real, personal and mixed, valued at several hundred thousand dollars, to John Benford for the benefit of creditors.

CINCINNATI, 17.—The telegraph wires are still in a bad condition, and all trains delayed six to eight hours. The snow here is light and it is growing colder.

Chicago, 17.—The snow ceased falling about midnight and was followed by a rapid fall in the temperature. There is almost a complete embargo in railway traffic throughout the west and northwest and passenger trains are badly delayed, and in some instances snowed in. Telegraph communication with New York ceased about 4 this morning, and has been only imperfectly renewed since noon.

FT. WAYNE, Ind., 17.—The situation as regards the railroad strike is unchanged; both sides are quiet; no demonstration so far to-day.

NEW YORK, 17.—Bar Silver, 108½; stocks dull and rather lower. During the past hour Western Union exceptionally strong at 58½.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., 17.—This city was visited last night by a very heavy wind storm. A number of business houses were unroofed, trees uprooted and several small factories damaged. The loss is extensive, but the amount of damage cannot be ascertained.

SHREVEPORT, La., 17.—The weather is the coldest of the season—19 above zero, with a heavy snow storm in the forenoon. The river rose a foot and one-tenth of an inch yesterday. Several planters from below brought their stock here and others are retreating to the hills for safety. The lakes and bayous are booming. People are seeking the higher grounds, and all the railroads are submerged. The New Orleans train due yesterday morning arrived this afternoon. The Vicksburg train was stopped by a washout near Monroe.

ST. PAUL, 17.—A representative of the Associated Press called on ex-Governor St. John this evening at his room in the National Hotel, and obtained from him a verbatim copy of the statement he promised to give the public regarding the charges against him contained in the letters and interviews recently published by Mr. Clarkson and Mr. Legate. This copy was compared, word by word, with the statement written by St. John and bears, like the original, his signature. Following is St. John's statement:

NATIONAL HOTEL, Minneapolis, Minn., January 17th, 1885.

S. Clarkson of the Des Moines Register, and members of the national committee of the republican party, with his friend, J. B. McCullough, of the *Globe-Democrat*, St. Louis, at last gives to the public what he calls evidence to prove that I proposed to sell out to the republicans, and thus betray the prohibition party. In Mr. Clarkson's letter, published in the *Chicago Tribune* of the 9th instant, he says: "To my knowledge, he did have overtures, through a friend from his own State, by which he offered, if paid \$25,000 in cash, to withdraw as a candidate altogether or to stay in the field and feather his speeches (as it was put in Kansas phrase) to help republicans. He was asked, in order to prove the sincerity of his offer, to withdraw from Ohio the last week before the October election in that State. He did this under the plea, which he said he would give, of getting a sore throat, and went first to Pittsburg next to Philadelphia, and finally to New York, where he hoped to meet some one on the part of the Republican National Committee, who would be ready to make the deal and pay the cash."

My appointments for the campaign were made by the National Committee of the Prohibition party at Chicago, Sept. 18. It was arranged for me to speak in Ohio: At Springfield, Oct. 3d, Delaware, 4th, Akron, 5th, and Oberlin, 6th. I filled every one of these appointments and one more, and those who attended my meetings, I feel sure, will do me the justice to say that I did not "feather" my speeches either. Having thus completed my work without a "sore throat" or pretending to have one, in accordance with the programme made for me by the committee. I proceeded on the morning of the 7th of October, to Adrian, Michigan, where, at 2 p.m. on that day, I addressed, in the open air, nearly 10,000 people, going the same evening to Detroit, where I addressed a large audience in the Grand Opera House. The next morning, in company with D. P. Sengdorff, of Charlotte, Michigan, and one of the members of the National Committee, and several other prominent prohibitionists, I started for my next appointment at Kalamazoo, making several short speeches on the way and addressing meetings at Kalamazoo