

BY TELEGRAPH.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 20.

West introduced a bill to amend the Pacific Railway acts of July first and July second, 1864. It provides that from and after its enactment all the Pacific Railway Company shall be liable to pay into the Treasury of the U. S. the whole amount of interest heretofore paid by the government on the bonds loaned to them to aid the construction of their roads, together with the interest on the several sums paid by the government in discharge of the interest on said bonds, at the rate of blank per cent. per annum from the date of payment, less the amount retained by the government for mail transportation, which shall be credited on account every six months. The bill requires the companies respectively to deposit in the U. S. Treasury, ten days preceding the maturity of the semi-annual interest on the U. S. bonds loaned, such sums as, added to the amount then due each company for mail service, will amount to the semi-annual interest then falling due; referred.

WASHINGTON, 20.—Christiancy introduced a bill to provide for challenges to jurors in trials for bigamy and polygamy in the Territory of Utah, and to amend Sec. four of the act in relation to courts and judicial officers in the Territory of Utah, approved June 24th, 1874; referred. The bill provides that in any trial for bigamy or polygamy, it shall be sufficient cause of challenge and for the rejection of any juror—first that he has more than one wife living in said Territory whether married by the ordinary rites or by the so-called sealing ceremony; or, second, that he believes it morally right for a man to live with more than one wife.

Morton in resuming his speech on the late election in Mississippi said that the task which he had undertaken was not a pleasant one, but he was in the performance of what he regarded as a high duty. No more important question could be presented to the Senate than the one now under consideration. He enquired whether the majority of the people of a State could be overthrown by violence and fraud, and whether two important amendments to the constitution of the U. S. could be violated without notice. He asked the Senate to listen to the evidence which he would produce, and he desired to state in the beginning that it was from democratic sources.

He then spoke of the financial condition of that State, and said it had been represented that the government had been extravagant beyond question, and in Mississippi this had been made an excuse for murder and outrage. He stated that in 1870 the republican party found the State destitute and prostrate, and extraordinary expenses had to be incurred. To lift it out of this condition the government had donated land to Mississippi, which had been squandered; the school fund had been stolen, and now the white liners in Mississippi, educated in this way, pretended to be outraged by the present state of the government, wanted to be relieved of it. He read from the message of Governor Tucker, to show the reckless extravagance which prevailed in Mississippi before the war. He referred to the condition of affairs attending the recent election, and read extracts from the State newspapers to show that a feeling hostile to the negro existed. In regard to the colored troops, he said that Governor Ames had but five companies of colored militia, and he found that they could not be used to keep the peace. The chairman of the Democratic State Committee went to Governor Ames and told him if he would disarm the colored troops the peace of the State should be preserved. Governor Ames did disarm them, but all on the democratic side retained theirs. He next read letters from Dr. Redfield to the Cincinnati Commercial, and said that Redfield was an ardent democrat, but was a man of great intelligence, and he believed a good man. Morton denied that there had been any decrease in the value of property in Mississippi, and argued that it had increased in value instead. Land was leased to colored people in that State at a price equal to its assessed value. At this point Morton said he had

been suffering with sore throat, and would not be able to conclude his remarks to-day, he therefore asked that his resolution be allowed to go over, and it was so ordered.

Sargent introduced a bill in regard to postal routes, postoffices and post roads. It provides that every railroad in the U. S. and the territories shall be considered in the law to be a postal route, and that every person desiring to do business with any railroad company, or along the line of any railroad, shall enjoy the same rights, facilities and privileges as may now or hereafter be enjoyed and by law allowed or conceded to other corporations, associations, firms or persons.

Sargent introduced a bill conferring certain privileges upon telegraph companies. It provides for the establishment of a new postal telegraph system, of which the following are the main features—Every post office in the U. S., situated at a post, or any telegraph line, shall also be a telegraph station, at which any telegraph company maintaining such line may establish and operate its instruments; if in any case it is apparent that the duties of the postmaster and telegraph operator could be performed by one person, the Postmaster-General may appoint a suitable person for both duties; and all postmasters shall receive messages for transmission by telegraph, and cause them to be delivered, the telegraph company paying to the government a postage of one cent on each. The charges for telegraphing all messages to be received at or delivered from the post offices shall be fixed by the Postmaster-General, but must not exceed the following: for ten word messages, less than 250 miles, 10 cents; for distances between 250 and 500 miles, 15 cents; from 500 to 1,000 miles, 25 cents; and for all greater distances 50 cents; the address and signature to be free of charge, and for additional words the rates to be in like proportion. The bill, however, authorizes any such telegraph company to maintain other offices in important towns, or a place for the receipt or transmission and delivery of messages of an urgent character, and to charge rates for them higher than the foregoing, providing the government has the precedence whenever the head of an executive department so requests, and that it shall be done at the lowest rates fixed by this bill. The government is to have the right to purchase any line accepting the privileges of this bill at any time within three years after commencing operations under it, and at its actual cost, with six per cent. interest added. The last section directs the P. M. General to advertise forthwith for proposals, and to award a contract to any responsible party undertaking to form telegraphic connections to carry on the object of this bill for the lowest tariff, not exceeding the prices above named, the contract to be for a term of twenty years, unless the government shall, during the period, purchase the lines. Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 21.—In the opening prayer this a. m. Chaplain Sunderland, after invoking the blessing of Divine Providence upon the nation, said—"As thy servants here assemble this day, to remember him who so lately presided in this chamber, we beseech thee, let thy heavenly assurance fall upon them as it did upon him."

The Chair laid before the Senate the memorial of Stanley Matthews and the committee of the National Railway convention, recently held in St. Louis, setting forth the advantages of certain thoroughfares, and asking aid for the Southern Pacific railroad; referred.

Sherman from the committee on finance reported a substitute for the Senate bill to provide for a commission on the subject of the alcoholic liquor traffic; placed on the calendar.

Frelinghuysen moved that when the Senate adjourn to-day it shall be to meet on Monday next; agreed.

After the morning hour Boutwell announced the death of Vice-President Wilson, and delivered a graceful eulogy, which he closed by offering usual resolutions of respect.

Messrs. Cragin, Cameron, of Pa., Morrill, Stevenson, Morton and Dawes also made addresses, when the resolutions were adopted and the Senate adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 21.—The Chair laid before the Senate the annual report of the commissioner of patents for 1875; laid on table and ordered printed.

Sherman presented ten petitions of citizens of Ohio, asking govern-

ment aid in the construction of the Texas Pacific railway. Similar petitions were presented by Cameron, of Pa., and Wallace. All were referred.

Morton introduced a bill to establish a mint for the coinage of gold and silver at Indianapolis, and appropriating certain government grounds and buildings to the use of the same, and also money for the purpose of purchasing the necessary machinery; referred.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 20.

The speaker called on the committees for reports, and Waddell, of the post office committee, reported back adversely to the bill by Eades to reduce the postage on 1st class mail matter to one cent for each half ounce; laid on the table.

WASHINGTON, 21.—Knott, from the judiciary committee, reported a bill for the retirement, on full pay, of Judge Wilson McCandless, of the western district of Pennsylvania, in consequence of physical disabilities, notwithstanding he has not attained the age of 70 years.

Lawrence opposed the bill, as establishing a dangerous precedent.

Knott remarked that a few years ago Congress deemed it wise to make provision that U. S. Judges on reaching the age of seventy years, might retire on their pay after having served ten years; if that law was just and wise it was impossible for him to conceive the injustice or unwisdom of passing the bill for the relief of faithful servants who had served as judge for twenty years, who lacked but two or three years of the necessary age, and whose physical disabilities would prevent his longer occupation of the bench with justice to the public interest. As to the propriety of the civil pension list, his (the Democratic) side of the House was not responsible; it was on the statute book now, and the present bill was simply to extend its benefit to one who was certainly entitled to it if any one was.

Holman said no act had ever passed Congress which was so much against the spirit and intent of American institutions as the act to pension judges. In the early days of the republic such legislation would have been deemed simply impossible. The original law was extremely liberal, and he objected to extend the provisions of an unwise measure beyond the original scope.

The passage of the bill was advocated by Frye, Hopkins and Conger; the latter called the attention to the fact that under the existing law this judge was not compelled either to resign or retire, there was no one to perform the duties of the office. The bill was passed, yeas 142, nays 100.

The House then took action on the usual resolutions in honor of the memory of the late Vice-President Wilson. Holman asked unanimous consent to extend the privilege of the floor to a delegation of Indiana editors during the time the eulogies were to be pronounced; adopted.

WASHINGTON, D. C., 22.—Steele offered a resolution, directing the committee on appropriations to inquire into the expediency of making any appropriation for the support of the Sioux Indians, and also into the right of white men to exclude them from the Black Hills country; adopted.

The House went into committee of the whole, Wood of New York in the chair, on the Centennial appropriation bill. Lawrence spoke in favor of the bill and in reply to the constitutional objection urged against it.

WASHINGTON, 21.—The Speaker called the States for bills, under which call the following bills were introduced and referred—

By Lapham, fixing the first Monday in January as the time for meeting of Congress; also a constitutional amendment proposing to change the commencement of the presidential inauguration from March 4th to May 1st.

By Ward, to protect life on steam ships, boats and sailing vessels, also to provide means of cheap transportation on inland waters.

By Holton, to abolish the tax on spirits distilled from fruit.

By Vance, for the transfer of the eastern band of Cherokees to the jurisdiction of North Carolina.

By Waddell, to classify and equalize the rates of postage on manuscript intended for publication, also for the purchase of Prof. Morse's picture of the House of Representatives.

AMERICAN.

BOSTON, 19.—The wool market remains unchanged. Manufacturers purchase only in lots as wanted, and there is no pressure to buy or sell. Sales have been at 45 @ 47 for Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces including xxx and No. 1 at 48 and 50, the latter being an outside price for lots in good condition; xxx and picklock range from 50 @ 55 as to condition. Michigan and Wisconsin fleeces have been selling at 42 @ 47 for x and No. 1. Pulled wool has been in fair demand at 37 @ 55 including super and x, the latter price for light and choice Maine. Super with Hales principally at 44 @ 57. Combing and delaine fleeces are firm, but inquiry is light and buyers are less anxious to purchase than a few weeks ago. California wool is in good demand at previous prices.

WASHINGTON, 19.—The Court of Commissioners of the Alabama Claims, to-day, awarded Wm. Johnson Taylor, \$10,250, and Agnes McLean \$10,250, for certain interests in the steamer *Electric Spark* destroyed by the *Florida*, July 10, 1864.

CAMP GRANT, A. T., 19.—A letter from Major Harper, of the sixth cavalry, at Camp Apache, says that the Indians broke out at Camp Apache on the 19th, at three and a half p. m. Major Harper, with his company, was ordered out just in time to save the lives of Major Ogilby of the 8th infantry and Lieut. Bailly. The troops charged on the Indians, killing Diablos' brother; the Indians then attacked the garrison, but were driven back to the hills. All was quiet at night. A letter from Indian Agent Clum, dated San Carlos, 18th, says that Diablos is there and all is quiet.

NEW YORK, 20.—The *Times* Washington special broadly intimates that Tom Scott will compass his Texas railway bill if he will only consent to permit the Central Pacific to control the road when it reaches California.

The assistant solicitor of the Treasury is the only person undertaking to explain the alleged illegal over issue of bonds to the Pacific railways. He says the provision limiting the issue to \$5,000,000 was construed to apply to the Union Pacific, but he assigns no reason for the construction, except that the Union Pacific was the only road mentioned in the first seven sections of the act containing the proviso; the other sections clearly render such construction impossible on any reasonable theory.

It was determined yesterday that the Plymouth church advisory council should be called for February 8th. Letters of invitation to be sent out with the letter missive, to between one and two hundred Congregational churches, clergymen, professors and delegates, will be mailed this week; it has been decided to withhold the list of churches mentioned in the call until letters of acceptance have been received and the membership of the council settled in that way.

The *Evening Post* says that at a meeting of the several coal carrying and producing interests to-day, it was agreed that in consequence of the over production and the accumulation of unsold coal upon the market, an entire suspension of all mining of anthracite coal for five weeks, from February 7th, to March eleventh inclusive, be ordered.

CHICAGO, 20.—The *Tribune's* Washington special says that one of the first reports of the democratic investigation committee will be in favor of an increase of the army by two full cavalry regiments, in case that two such cannot be at once spared to patrol the Mexican border along the Rio Grande. The Mexican border committee, to-day, asked the Secretary of War whether he could furnish these regiments at once, and if he cannot the committee will report a recommendation to the House that they be at once recruited.

The *Times* special says that Mr. Fish has laid before the foreign affairs committee his correspondence with Spain, concerning the Cuban complications; the important part of the correspondence is the letter of Nov. 5 to Cushing, about which rumors have been flying through the air ever since Congress assembled. This note contains no imperative demand on the Spanish government. It sets forth the long continuance of the insurrection, with its evil effects on our commerce and upon the property of Americans in Cuba, and incidentally alludes to the inhumanities practised by the contestants. Mr.

Fish does not consider that the note amounts to an actual attempt at intervention, neither does he admit that the application has been made to any other government for countenance or co-operation in intervention; all that was done he says was to inclose copies of the note to Mr. Cushing to our several ministers in Europe, who were authorized to read the dispatch to the Governments to which they are accredited, and to suggest, verbally, the question whether those governments could concur with the U. S. in the proposition for pacification. Mr. Fish declines as yet to make public the number and intent of the answers he has received, as he considers that publicity for the time being is incompatible with the public interests. In regard to the reply alleged to have been made by Spain, Mr. Fish denies having received information from Mr. Cushing; he admits, however, that the published purported synopsis of the actual reply contains several passages which are responsive to those in his note. He sees nothing belligerent in the Spanish dispatches published, and had anticipated that certain points made by him would arouse argument. For instance he says a very deceptive case can be made out of the great increase, last year, of the Cuban sugar crop, and the large sugar imports by the United States; but this is only due to the removal of a large number of laborers from the eastern and central departments, where coffee and cattle were raised, to the sugar plantations of the west. On the whole Mr. Fish professes to entertain a hopeful expectation of the peaceful settlement of the Spanish-Cuban difficulties.

DOVER, N. H., 20.—Arthur P. Devlin lectured last night on Romanism in America. After the lecture a crowd followed him and he fled into a drug store for safety, when bricks were thrown through the windows—the Mayor was compelled to read the riot act; the police finally succeeded in getting Devlin to his hotel, being compelled to use their revolvers, but no one was injured.

OTTAWA, 20.—The Dominion Board of Trade resumed its sitting this a. m. A resolution was passed urging the government to pass an act to clearly define the respective rights and liabilities of common carriers by land and water, as well as what constitutes the delivery of goods by vessels arriving in the ports of the Dominion. Resolutions were moved and seconded, to the effect that the depressed condition of the manufacturing industries of the Dominion calls imperatively for such legislation as will afford protection to the capital already invested in manufacturing, encourage further investment, and afford employment to people in the workshops of Canada. After long discussion, White, Jr., moved an amendment eliminating the portions relating to the products of the soil and mines, and the motion as amended was carried. Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 20.—The memorial committee of thirteen, appointed by the recent St. Louis National Railroad Convention, waited, to-day, upon the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, and presented the memorial and proceedings of the convention in favor of the government construction of the Texas and Pacific Railroad as a competing line to the Pacific. Hon. Stanley Matthews, of Ohio, President of the convention, Col. Wm. Johnson, of North Carolina, Hon. R. W. Thompson, of Indiana, Hon. J. H. Kennard, of Louisiana, D. Folsomfield, of California, C. K. Marshall, of Mississippi, and A. C. Clayton, of Texas, were present. These documents will thus officially reach both houses of Congress, where they will receive the consideration of the proper committees. The committee have a letter from the President inviting them to call on him to-morrow at two o'clock.

The obstruction to Pinchback's admission to the Senate at present is the question whether there is a *de jure* government in Louisiana, until this question is settled by the committee on privileges and elections Pinchback will not succeed in obtaining a vote of the Senate, in his favor. Should Governor Kellogg appoint a new man the latter would stand in no better position than Pinchback.

The House committee on appropriations have completed the congressional and diplomatic bill. The estimates last year were \$1,352,358 and the amount appropriated was