

BY TELEGRAPH. AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 18.—The following is the text of the bill to facilitate the refunding of the national debt agreed upon:

Be it enacted, etc., That all existing provisions of law authorizing the refunding of the national debt shall apply to any bonds of the United States bearing a higher rate of interest than 4½ per centum per annum, which may hereafter become redeemable; *Provided*, that in lieu of the bonds authorized to be issued by the Act of July 14th, 1870, entitled, "An Act to authorize the refunding of the national debt," and acts amendatory thereto, and certificates authorized by the act of Feb. 26th, 1879, entitled, "An Act to authorize the refunding of the public debt," that the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to issue bonds in an amount not exceeding \$500,000,000, which shall bear interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum, redeemable at the pleasure of the United States after 20 years, and payable 40 years from the date of issue; and also notes in the amount at \$200,000,000, bearing interest at 7-13 per centum per annum, redeemable at the pleasure of the United States after two years and payable in ten years from the date of issue, but not more than \$40,000,000 of said notes shall be redeemed in any one fiscal year; and the particular notes to be redeemed from time to time shall be determined by lot under such rules as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe. These bonds and notes shall be in all other respects of like character and subject to the same provisions as the bonds authorized to be issued by the Act of July 14, 1870, entitled "An Act to authorize the refunding of the national debt," and acts amendatory thereto; *Provided*, that nothing in this Act shall be construed as to authorize an increase of the public debt.

Sec. 2. The Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized in the process of refunding the national debt to exchange, at not less than par, any of the bonds or notes herein authorized, for any of the bonds of the United States outstanding and uncalled bearing a higher rate of interest than 4½ per cent. per annum, and on the bonds so redeemed the Secretary of the Treasury may allow to holders the difference between the interest on such bonds from the date of exchange to the time of their maturity, and interest for a like period on the bonds or notes issued; but none of the provisions of this act shall apply to the redemption or exchange of any bonds issued to the Pacific Railroad Companies, and the bonds so received and exchanged in pursuance of the provisions of this shall be cancelled and destroyed.

Sec. 3. Authority to issue bonds and notes to the amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this act is hereby granted.

Sec. 4. The act approved February 26, 1879, authorizing issue of certificates of deposit is hereby amended so as to continue and limit the amount of certificates to be issued to \$50,000,000 to be outstanding at any one time, and fixing the rate of interest to be allowed thereon at three and one-half per centum per annum for one year, after which interest shall cease and said certificates shall be convertible at the option of holders when presented in sums of \$50 or multiples thereof into coupons or registered bonds authorized by this act. Whenever any of said certificates shall be converted into bonds, the same shall be cancelled and destroyed by the Secretary of the Treasury, who may, in his discretion, issue new certificates in place of those so converted, up to the limit of \$50,000,000, until the aggregate amount of bonds authorized by this act, and if the said certificates combined then outstanding shall equal the amount of bonds hereby authorized, it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to form combinations by which to procure said certificates of deposit authorized under this act for purposes of sale to others, or for acting as agents of others; and any person so offending shall be liable on conviction to be fined \$1,000 or imprisonment not to exceed one year. The secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to make suitable regulations in compliance with this act, providing that the expense for disposing of the certificates and bonds authorized to be issued shall not exceed one quarter of one per centum; *Provided*, that said certificates shall not be sold or converted at less than par.

Sec. 5. From and after the first day of July, 1880, the 3½ per centum bonds authorized by the first section of this act shall be the only bonds receivable as security for national bank circulation.

Sec. 6. This act shall be known as the Funding Act of 1880, and all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

The Donnelly-Washburne case was deferred till to-morrow.

Gen. Sherman discredits the newspaper reports of a fight between Buckner and the hostiles.

The Senate joint resolution has passed, authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to employ a naval vessel or charter a ship for the purpose of transporting to the famishing and poor of Ireland such contributions as may be made for their relief.

CHICAGO, 18.—A special from Fargo, D. T., says: The winter is so severe that travel West is almost abandoned, it costing the Northern Pacific \$100 a passenger from Fargo to Bismarck. This is hurting the Black Hills travel from St. Paul to Fargo. The trains run on summer time, but west of there Old Boreas seems to be on an endless carnival. A dozen trains are now trying to get either way. The depression of the mercury, velocity of wind and depth of snow all have been unprecedented. The oldest aborigine has no recollection of any similar winter.

The little town of Osceola, Greene County, Illinois, has been almost swept away by a freshet on Little Barren river. A number of houses were carried off with nearly all their contents, while many were hardly able to get their furniture out before the water submerged the houses. Gouche's fine flouring mill was shivered to pieces by the dashing water and carried down the current. The loss is very great, probably \$100,000.

It is stated that passenger agents have just agreed to restore and maintain the Colorado passenger rates, beginning to-morrow.

LOS PINOS AGENCY, Col., 16.—The contractor failed to furnish transportation at the time appointed and General Adams and Otto were unable to leave until this morning. The delegation is composed of Indians, four Uncompahgre and five White River Utes, three of the latter, Douglas, Johnson and Thomas, were prisoners. The delegation is above the average in point of intelligence, and the representative men are ahead of those who accompanied Chief Ouray. General Adams succeeded beyond the expectation of the people of Colorado. Few men would have accomplished so much.

CINCINNATI, 18.—During a wind storm early this morning, a frame house on McLane avenue near Liberty Street, occupied by John Delfenbach, wife and three children, was blown completely over, burying the inmates under the debris. The father was fatally injured, and the wife and two eldest children slightly hurt. The infant was crushed beneath the timbers. A rafter was lying across its neck when found. It was taken to a neighboring house where in a few minutes afterwards it died.

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, 18.—A letting to-day of the Texas Pacific Railway, a hundred miles west of Fort Worth, was contracted to different parties, the cars to be running over it by August 1st. A large number of contractors were present. The prices were satisfactory, and a great many outfits are already on the ground. Another letting of 50 miles is to be held on March 1st.

NEW YORK, 18.—Rev. Edward Cowley, manager of the Shepherd's Fold, who has been on trial the past eight days, on the charge of starving and cruelly treating children, was today convicted. Cowley wept bitterly upon the announcement of the verdict. He will be sentenced on Saturday.

CHICAGO, 19.—The *Inter-Ocean's* Washington special says: The Acklen case took up so much time that nothing was done about the rules yesterday. The controversy over allowing riders upon appropriation bills will be renewed to-day.

An important bill regarding the control of the Pacific railroads, was introduced in the House to-day by McLane, of Maryland. It abolishes the present board of five government directors, and establishes in their stead a board of supervisors of the Pacific railroads consisting of the Secretary of the Interior, Assistant Secretary, and a commissioner of railroad affairs, to take the place of the present auditor of railroad accounts; a railroad engineer who shall have special charge of the rolling stock and construction, and an officer of the Attorney General's department, learned in the law. These supervisors are to have entire charge

of all the government's interest in these railroads and have authority to receive complaints, make investigations and report coercive legislation, if necessary, to Congress. The bill is very elaborate, and has the approval of the Interior Department, having been prepared by Theopilas French, Auditor of R. R. accounts.

WASHINGTON, 19.—Introducing the speech of Stephens in the House, Conger said he had made a motion in the interest of free speech. He had desired the opportunity to hear the voice of the distinguished gentleman from Georgia (Stephens), whose legislative experience, and whose familiarity with the rules of the House dated back to the time when the fierce democracy of the other side believed in free speech, in free discussion and in the doctrines of the old, hard-fisted Jacksonian democracy of which he (Stephens) was the living representative still, thank God! [Applause.] If in the progress of events in this country it had happened that the democratic party once so honored, once so esteemed, once so respected, once embracing so large a portion of people of all sections and all regions, had slipped its moorings; if it had been wandering for years on unknown seas of adventure; if it had forgotten the principles of Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Jackson, what a glorious thing it was for the country that there still lived, still breathed, still was one, in all his mental and intellectual vigor, with memory unimpaired, an old representative of the democracy of those days then Whigs, [applause and laughter] then acting with that party, true to the Constitution, but upholding the Jefferson ideas of democracy, and to-day acknowledged by all democrats as a representative of old line democracy, honored by them as such, having brought into the fold the ark of the covenant of Whigery, (laughter) and placed it in the democratic camp. How fortunate was it for the old representatives of the whig party that the ark of the covenant was still held by the gentleman, and that he could tell what democracy had been in early days, what it had been when the whig party had become the depository of its principles, how he had borne that ark down through the scenes of revolution and rebellion through all the driftings of the party, and was ready to present it here to-day. He did not wonder modern democrats refused to hear the venerable statesman. Here was an unwonted spectacle and of refusal to hear him even on the subject of rules. He (Conger) and his friends, together with a few democrats, had at last brought the House a position where the gentleman from Georgia could speak, where the gag was removed from him, and with pleasure exceeding that which he had wont to express. Yielding to the earnest longings of his friends on all sides to hear again the old words of democracy from the eloquent expounder of those doctrines, he would yield the remainder of his time to the gentleman from Georgia.

The President sent to the Senate to-day the information called for by the resolution relative to the Spanish Claims commission. This commission was organized under the treaty of 1871, on account of the loss sustained by Americans in Cuba. During the nine years this commission has been in existence it appears that it has sat but 15 days in each year. The amount paid claimants has been \$937,000 and the amount of claims entered \$26,000,000. There seems to have been a deliberate plan of the Spanish government to postpone payment of its just debts.

CHICAGO, 19.—The *Journal's* New York special says: United States District Attorney Woodford says, "After three week's attendance upon the Chisholm trial, after having made a campaign tour in Louisiana and seeing what it costs to be a republican there, and after seeing the attempt to seize the government in Maine, I want to see a man nominated so strong, so resolute, so true, that when he is elected he will be inaugurated in spite of every effort to prevent it. Now you know who I shall vote for if I go to the Utica Convention." The indications are that George William Curtis will not be a delegate to the Republican State Convention.

The *Tribune* has another liberal dose of correspondence, showing the decadence of the Grant and Sherman sentiment throughout the country, and the triumphant progress of the Blaine movement. Among the chief points are the following: A federal office-holder traveling through the South states that he finds the democrats are hopeful that Grant will be nominated, and be-

lieve he is the easiest man to beat. Republicans want a man of less ring notoriety, Blaine or Washburne.

NEW YORK, 19.—The *Times* prints a card signed by Benjamin B. Sherman, president of the Mechanic's Bank, Jackson S. Schultz, Sinclair Tousey, F. D. Tappen, George Bliss, E. D. Morgan, Wm. E. Dodge, and others appealing for contributions for colored refugees in Kansas. The card states, we are gathering money and supplies for the Irish, which is right, but ought we not to remember our starving fellow citizens in our own country?

The election of delegates yesterday to the Richmond county convention, Staten Island, to choose delegates to the Utica convention, resulted in a sweeping victory for the republicans, making the county convention almost unanimous for Grant.

BALTIMORE, 19.—At the lynching of Page Wallis, at Point of Rocks, for outraging Miss Marmon, the latter was allowed to fire fourteen shots into the dangling form as it swung. This is the fourth lynching of negroes for outraging white women, in a circuit of twenty miles, since April.

NEW ORLEANS, 19.—During the session of the House yesterday, Speaker Ogden's pistol fell from his pocket, causing it to discharge. Today District Attorney Finney filed an information against Ogden, charging him with carrying concealed weapons.

WASHINGTON, 20.—The committee on inter-oceanic canal had before it this morning A. G. Menzies, United States Navy, one of the civil engineers formerly engaged in making surveys of the Isthmus, and heard his statement as to the relative advantages of the Panama and Nicaragua routes. He favored strongly the Nicaragua route as being 660 miles shorter than the Panama one, as between New York and San Francisco, and because of the greater salubrity of its climate, better supply of building material, and relative cheapness of construction. He expressed the conviction that the cost of the Nicaragua canal would not exceed \$10,000,000, while that of a sea level canal at Panama would not be less than \$400,000,000. The latter he regarded as commercially impracticable. He admitted that the passage by Nicaragua would consume more time on account of its greater length and large number of locks; and that the annual expense of maintaining it would be twice as great; but he thought that these objections were more than set off by its relative cheapness.

He was asked by Hutchins whether he had read the recent reports of Dierck's opinion as to the feasibility of the Panama canal. He said he had, and thought him a very able man, who stood at the head of his profession, but he thought he did not know enough of the American isthmus to form an opinion as to the choice between the rival routes. He said that the various surveys made by our government of the Panama route were made to ascertain which isthmus was the best.

The bill recently reported by McLane, from the committee on Pacific railroads and their branches, which have received government aid, has already caused much concern among all the parties concerned. The bill in effect confers upon the government board of commissioners to be appointed supervisors, control over the operations of the subsidized railroads, with power to regulate charges over the same; and section 10 repeals the act of March, 1875, granting the right of way through the public lands to railroads. The provisions of the bill, and particularly those enumerated, have stirred up the western railroad lobby to an unusual degree, and they have been flying ahead at a great rate for the last two days working against the bill. There seems a growing sentiment among the western members of Congress particularly, that the railroads which have taken possession of the public lands in the Territories under the guise of right of way should be willing to be amenable to Congress in their own States. Mr. P. C. Huntington, who was exceedingly active yesterday, has left for New York, but is expected back with reinforcements to oppose the bill. It is section 16 to which he principally objects. His Southern Pacific Railroad comes east through Arizona to Tucson, some 300 miles, and if the McLane bill becomes a law in its present shape, the Southern Pacific would have to stop in the wilderness or make terms with the government.

The following is the order issued by the Postmaster General cutting down the mail service on the Star routes:

To the Second Assistant Postmaster General:

That there may be no deficiency created to maintain the Star service for the present fiscal year, I direct that on and after March 1st, prox., service on all the Star routes be reduced to one trip per week, allowing one month's extra pay, as provided by law, on service dispensed with. I also direct that service placed on new routes since, including July 1st, 1879, be discontinued, if the foregoing reduction is not sufficient for the purpose indicated. I think the rapid growth in population and business in the Territories and new States and the restoration and improvements of the service in the Southern States demand the existing service, and in many instances additional service on recently established routes. I also believe the public service will suffer by the reduction, but the law requires that I shall not exceed the appropriation and I am determined to conform to the law.

(Signed) D. M. KEY,
Postmaster General.

The Senate committee on Territories decided to recommend the passage of the bill extending the jurisdiction of the United States courts in civil and criminal matters to the Indian Territory, and providing for the acquirement of citizenship by the Indians and the allotment of lands to them in severalty under prescribed conditions.

The bill proposes to create a United States District Court for the new judicial district to be composed of the Indian Territory, and in general terms provides for extending all laws of the United States over the whole Territory. Every Indian may become a citizen by making declaration that he has severed his tribal relations, and thereupon he is to become entitled to select a homestead for himself and family. Tribal lands in excess of the number of acres absorbed by these selections are to be sold for the benefit of the Indians. All the foregoing provisions, except the one for the establishment of a court, are made dependent upon the consent of the Indians; counsels being obtained therefor as provided in existing treaties. The bill will be reported to the Senate next week.

The Postmaster-General issued an order to-day, forbidding the delivery of registered letters and money orders to Smalley & Gale, No. 35 Broadway, New York, who are said to be engaged in fraudulent stock operations.

The President has nominated Rowland E. Trowbridge, of Michigan, Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

The nomination foreshadowed in these dispatches last week of Rowland E. Trowbridge, of Michigan, to be Commissioner of Indian Affairs, which was sent to the Senate to-day, meets with very general approval in Washington, and will undoubtedly be confirmed. Mr. Trowbridge was born in Elmira, New York, in 1821, and when a child removed with his parents to Michigan. He received a collegiate education at Kenyon, Ohio, but has devoted most of his time to farming. He served in the upper branch of the Michigan Legislature from 1856 to 1870, and was a member of the House of Representatives in the Thirty-seventh, Thirty-ninth and Fortieth Congresses, between the years 1860 and 1868. He was chairman of the committee on agriculture in the Fortieth Congress, and established an excellent reputation among his fellow members for honesty and business capacity.

Representative Frye, of Maine, has prepared a resolution for reference to the Inter-ocean Canal committee, of which he is a member, re-affirming the Monroe doctrine and taking the strongest grounds that no canal shall be constructed across the Isthmus of Panama except under American protection.

Senator Booth to-day introduced a bill appropriating \$9,930 to reimburse C. N. Felton, late United States assistant treasurer at San Francisco, for losses sustained by him in the payment of forged disbursing officer's check, without default or negligence on his part. Booth to-day secured the passage by the Senate of a bill relinquishing to J. M. Cutler the government title to a tract of 40 acres of land near Camp Independence, California.

NEW YORK, 20.—Rev. Edward Cowley late manager of the Shepherd's Fold, who was convicted of cruelly treating and starving children under his care, was arraigned this morning for sentence. Recorder Smyth gave the extreme penalty of the law; one year in the State prison and \$250 fine.

A large five story iron front building, 384 and 386 Broadway, burned this evening. Losses, Hagan, Todd