

BY TELEGRAPH

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 22.—The President approved the agricultural appropriation bill, and the act amending sections 1926 and 1927 of the Revised Statutes, so as to extend the limits of jurisdiction of justices of the peace in the Territories of Washington, Idaho and Montana.

The House agricultural committee this morning agreed to report favorably Anderson's bill creating an agricultural commission to inquire into the subject of transportation and other matters pertaining to agricultural products. It empowers the President, with the consent of the Senate, to appoint nine commissioners at \$10 per day, whose duty it shall be to thoroughly investigate the movement of agricultural products from points produced to final market, the actual cost of the movement to the common carrier, charge to shippers by carrier, and all matters which practically affect the difference between the price received by the producer of the given article and the price paid therefor by the consumer.

Gen. Joseph E. Johnson, ex-Confederate commander, has been recommended by Gen. Grant for the position of District Commissioner here. Johnson has purchased a house and become a permanent resident of Washington.

The court of claims to-day rendered a decision in the case of Commander James D. Graham of the navy to the effect that naval officers while traveling in a foreign country under orders are entitled to mileage the same as when traveling under order in the United States. Judgment given for \$48 in favor of the claimant.

A good deal of quiet work is being done among the democratic representatives bearing on the organization of the next House, the speaker-ship fight just at present being subordinate to the contest for other and minor elective offices.

A combination consisting of Randall for speaker, Thompson for sergeant-at-arms, and Clark for clerk, is talked of a great deal.

In case of numbers of Chinese being transported in a body, in charge of agents or otherwise, the affidavits of such agents or others in charge, with proof satisfactory to the collector that such laborers will be conveyed without delay across the territory of the United States and delivered on board a ship or into foreign territory, may be received in lieu of tickets.

The Yellowstone Park is likely to remain tolerably free to all visitors for several months to come, if assurances of Secretary Teller are good and preparations made by the Yellowstone Park Improvement Company for building hotels must go on if they are to be pushed at all, without positive knowledge of the sort.

The tariff bill will not be taken up by the House to-morrow, because the navy appropriation bill was not passed to-day. Only 30 lines of the navy bill were approved to-day, and it is considered doubtful if the bill will be passed to-morrow.

BERKELEY, 21.—The mixing house and six packing houses of the giant powder works at Point Clement, near West Berkeley, exploded at 4 p.m. to-day. The shocks of seven explosions were felt in this town. One white man, the foreman, named Conk, and between 40 and 50 Chinese are known to have been blown to atoms. Nearly the entire plant is destroyed by fire, which began immediately after the explosion. The superintendent was thrown a long distance, but not hurt. Physicians went down from Berkeley. The fire is still raging. The large magazine containing over 200 tons is still safe. About eight tons exploded. The loss cannot be estimated. Dwelling houses on the east side of the hill are safe, but all the glass is shattered.

It is now known that the number of Chinese killed is not as great as at first reported; not over thirty are missing. The fire is still raging, and more explosions are expected momentarily.

The assistant superintendent is missing, and is supposed to be killed. A workman named Oscar Fergusky was pulled from the ruins soon after the explosion, seriously hurt. Seven Chinese have been taken from the debris, all badly hurt. All the houses within a radius of half a mile are completely shattered. The doors and windows of the dwelling houses of employees on the opposite side of the hill were blown in, and

most of the occupants thrown to the floor. Sheds and barns are laid flat. The buildings of the Judson works on the side of the hill where the blasting powder was manufactured, were thrown over and will probably have to be rebuilt. The cause of the first explosion in the mixing house is yet unknown. The other explosions followed in the space of two minutes. All the buildings blown up are on the Bay side of the dill, but the fires crept rapidly around, and now at 9 o'clock p.m., the large magazine is in danger. No attempt has been made to check the fire, owing to the danger.

The wharf is now burning. Hospitals are improvised in the damaged buildings, and physicians have come from Oakland and neighboring towns.

The total loss by reason of the explosion will reach not less than \$100,000. The Giant Powder Works were damaged \$60,000; the acid works of Judson & Co., \$40,000. It is impossible to ascertain the exact loss of life, but it is estimated at 30 or 40.

San Francisco, 22.—The latest news from the scene of giant powder explosion near Berkeley is to the effect that the total number of bodies recovered is 26. So far as known, this includes all the killed. The coroner's jury made an investigation and rendered a verdict that the victims came to their deaths by a powder explosion, the cause of which is unknown.

SAN FRANCISCO, 21.—Howard Tilton, of Yale, B. C., freight agent of the Canada Pacific Railway, who was on board the Southern Pacific train at the time of the disaster says: I was asleep in the lower berth when the accident occurred, and was awakened by the terrible speed and rocking of the car. I threw up the curtain and looked out of the window. The train was rushing down the grade with frightful rapidity, at the rate of probably 70 miles an hour, and I realized that a disaster was imminent. I laid down again to await for the inevitable, with the feeling a man must experience when standing on the scaffold in expectation of the fall of the trap. It seemed only an instant when the crash came and I was hurled from the berth I was sleeping in on the left side of the car, which fell upon its right side, and I was covered to my waist with mattresses, woodwork and debris, but found no difficulty in freeing myself. Smoke was passing through the car, giving timely warning of impending peril. A locomotive from Tehachapi soon came to our relief, and conveyed us to the station, where we arrived two hours after the accident occurred. Here we were kindly cared for by the railroad officials and others, medical aid rendered, and everything done to relieve our necessities. The locomotive then returned to the scene, and brought to the station the injured passengers.

San Francisco, 22.—Bakerfield special dispatch: The coroner who went up to the scene of the railroad disaster Saturday morning, returned to-day. He arrived on the ground at 2 p.m. A large crowd was there, and had already pretty thoroughly investigated the ash heaps which represented the train. The human remains were disposed of in seven heaped, each one of which was supposed to represent a human being. Some of them probably did, but most of them were bits of calcined bones that might have represented several. He thinks the destruction of human life much greater than is supposed. The leader of the two sleepers in the downward flight from which no one escaped is believed to have been pretty well filled, and it would have accommodated fifty-four persons. In it were placed the way passengers, and many such always get on. Some coin and jewelry were turned over to his keeping.

Tehachapi dispatch: The coroner's jury found a verdict in the train disaster case, the victims came to their death by neglect of Conductor Reed and Brakeman Patton. The verdict is not yet approved by the coroner. Two bodies are identified as those of Thomas Keegan and Ferdinand Gromfort, discharged soldiers of Company H, Sixth Cavalry.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., 21.—Henry Smith, bridge tender, shot his wife and then himself. He died instantly. Mrs. Smith will probably recover.

Steelton, Pa., 21.—August Nebinger, postmaster, is arrested for retaining \$1,200 government money. He says most of it was spent in the recent election.

Nashville, 22.—Judge Quarles has

fixed Treasurer Polk's appearance bond at \$100,000.

San Francisco, 22.—Special from Weeksville, Montana: On Saturday the vigilantes proceeded to Thompson River and cleared the place of roughs. Then went forward to Sandpoint, where they found two nicknamed "Dick the Barber" and "Ohio Dan." They brought the pair within two miles of here and hung them on separate trees. Both made confessions, stating they were guilty and had committed enough depredations to have warranted hanging long ago.

Columbia, Pa., 21.—A fight occurred at the Susquehanna rolling mills between about 70 tramps and 50 workmen who tried to drive them away. The former used sticks and stones, the latter iron bars; many minor casualties, but no fatalities.

Belair, N. J., 20.—The body of Arthur Preston, hanged here yesterday, was stolen from the grave last night at Hendon Hill graveyard.

San Francisco, 22.—A dispatch to Wells, Fargo & Co., from Carson, says: The store at Gold Mountain was robbed Thursday or Friday night by mounted and masked men; the proprietor and two clerks were killed. The road agents then went to a store at Silver Peak and robbed it, killing the proprietor and one clerk. Two of the robbers were killed. Gold Mountain and Silver Peak are in the southwestern part of Nevada, distant from telegraphic communication. The robbers are well mounted and armed. That section of the country is being scoured for them by determined men, who will make short work of them if caught.

New York, 21.—The discovery in an unclaimed box in the express office of the body of a girl, fair haired, good looking, and about 14 years of age, promises to turn out a sensational metropolitan mystery. There is some suspicion that it is the remains of one of two girls who have been missing for some time, but who the police believed had been carried off to the continent, whither so many young girls have of late disappeared mysteriously.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., 21.—The machine shops of the Great Western Manufacturing Company burned this afternoon; loss \$75,000; insurance \$25,000. Origin of the fire unknown. Four hundred men out of employment. The works will be rebuilt at once.

Reno, 21.—A report comes from the north to-night that Susanville has been again destroyed by fire; no further particulars.

Milwaukee, 21.—Search in the ruins of the Newhall House was finished to-day. Two more charred remains were found, making 48. Of 177 people said to be in the hotel at the time of the fire, 176 are accounted for as follows. Identified, 28; not identified, 46; saved, 102; still missing, 1; making the total loss of life 75. Thursday next is the day of the great funeral of the charred remains.

New York, 22.—John A. McVeagh, comedian, met with a fatal accident on Friday, falling down stairs at his residence, 3 Bleeker Street, and sustaining concussion of the brain and a fracture of the skull, from which he died in a few hours.

COAL CENTRE, Pa., 23.—Boyle's distillery, at Pike's Run, burned; loss \$75,000; partially insured.

BRainerd, Minn., 23.—The North Pacific hospital and the Old Colony reception house, burned; 36 patients, many of them bedridden, were removed; two are in a dying condition. They suffered greatly. The thermometer indicates 40 deg. below zero.

CHICAGO, 23.—The weather as yet shows no signs of moderating; temperature at eight o'clock a. m. 20 deg. below zero. The area of cold seems to have its centre over Lake Michigan, its western edge rests on the Missouri River and the northern boundary is unknown. Throughout this region the temperature during the past two days has been of extraordinary severity; the mercury ranging from 10 at Chicago to 60 below zero, the latter at Winnipeg, last night. No loss of life from freezing is reported, but great suffering has been experienced by those necessarily exposed. The railroad embargo is general; the trains are running hours behind schedule time. Dispatches at 4 o'clock a. m., from points in the western extremity of the cold belt indicate a rising temperature accompanied by snow.

MILWAUKEE, 23.—The action of Gen. Sharpe, Governor of the Soldiers' Home, in not complying with the request for aid at the Newhall

House and refusing to send the steamer will be made a matter of official investigation. Mrs. Sylvester Bleeker, the wife of the manager of the Tom Thumb Company, died of injuries sustained. She tried to escape on a rope made from bed clothing, but lost her hold, fell and dislocated her left shoulder, broke her left arm, dislocated her left hip and fractured her right leg besides sustaining numerous cuts over the body. Her remains will be taken to Brooklyn to-morrow. Jno. Gilbert the actor improves slowly. He is able to sit up in bed, but his mind is not yet recovered and he asks continually how he came to be burned. He is under the impression that his wife is in Louisville, visiting her sister. The coroner's investigation is again postponed, this time till to-morrow; it will then be pushed through without interruption.

WASHINGTON, 23.—The commissioners on the part of the United States and Mexico have completed their labors, and submitted the proposed treaty to the President, who will send it to the Senate. The treaty will be regarded as confidential until ratified or rejected by the Senate.

John Harmon, veteran lobbyist, testified this morning before the Bailey investigating committee that he received \$5,000 from the gas company in Washington for work done by him in aiding to defeat legislation adverse to the company between the years 1875 and 1878. He further testified the money was paid him at the House of Representatives by John Bailey, the person under investigation.

The District Attorney of Utah explained to the House Judiciary committee this morning the necessity of a law as provided for by the Edmunds bill to compel the first wife to testify in order to prove marriage in the case of a plurality of wives. He held that without this the conviction of offenders and the correction of the evil is almost impossible.

The ways and means committee to-day authorized a favorable report on the bill to prevent the importation of adulterated tea. The committee also report upon the amendment to the tariff bill advancing the rate on caustic, which enters largely into the wood pulp manufacturing process, to one cent a pound.

On account of the uncertainty of the privileges to be obtained from the interior Department since Vest set on foot his inquiries into the agreement and the proposed lease favored by Acting Secretary Joslyn, the Improvement Company has been checked; work has come to a dead halt, it having become apparent from the tone of the report made by Vest, from the committee on territories, that the Senate would disapprove of Joslyn's proposed basis of seven plots of 650 acres each for the National Park.

A palace car of the Fish Commission, stocked with carp for the Pacific Coast, left here to-night. It goes by the Southern Pacific road, and will receive them at various points on the route. Fish for Oregon will be transported by steamer from San Francisco next week.

Steele, of Indiana, introduced in the House this morning a bill to suspend the operation of the provision of section 1,094 of the Revised Statutes, to authorize the President to fill any vacancy which may occur in the office of General or Lieutenant General of the army through death, resignation or retirement. The effect of the measure in the case of death, resignation or retirement of Sherman, would be to advance Sheridan to the Generalship of the army and probably Hancock to the place of Lieutenant General.

Armstrong, commissioner of the Pacific Railroad, will send the committee to-morrow a statement giving the status of the telegraph line along the railroads that have received aid from the government in the shape of bonds and lands. It looks as though a raid were to be made upon the Western Union Company.

When the Senate was called to order to-day, Butler, of South Carolina was the only senator present. The Vice-President said "The senator from South Carolina will come to order." After prayer, Butler moved a call of the Senate.

The tariff bill will not be taken up in the House till the navy appropriation bill is passed, and at the rate the committee of the whole is moving it is doubtful if the latter measure will be disposed of till late to-morrow night.

The question of establishing the postal telegraph will be considered

by the House committee on postal offices and post roads to-morrow.

The National Women's Suffrage Association met to-day at Lincoln Hall, Miss Susan Anthony, first vice-president presiding. Addressed by Miss Anthony, Rachel Foster Ellen Sheldon and May Wright Sewall, a number of committees were appointed to systematize the work of the convention. To-night two addresses were delivered; "Is it a crime to be a woman?" by Tillie Blake; the other, "A woman with out a country," by Phoebe W. Coker.

TEHACHAPI, 23.—The remains of Col. Larabee have been positively identified, as have been Miss M. E. Seures, Mrs. Downey, and Lawrence, porter of the through sleeper. Enough has been brought to light to identify the remains of L. Webber and those of H. A. Oliver. These added to the remains of Mr. Schillinghyde, who boarded the train at Fresno, make the number of dead accounted for, 12. Two bodies still remain unrecognized. The clues for identification are so slight that it is possible they will never be known. The remains may have been those of tramps stealing a ride; at all events, every passenger on the chart of the sleeper has been accounted for, as living or dead. The supposed bodies of seven persons have been pronounced burned flesh and bones of non-human animals; and what strengthens the position taken by the medical men is the fact that the remains pronounced not human were taken from the ruins of the express and baggage cars.

Keyser, W. Va., 23.—One of the most terrible and fatal railroad accidents that ever occurred in this part of the country happened on the Georges Creek and Cumberland Railroad to-day. Three coal trains, consisting of 3 locomotives, 52 hoppers and 17 gondolas, all loaded, started from Cumberland coupled together, one engine in front, another in the middle, and one in the rear. On going down one of the steep grades the engines lost control, and the train started down the steep incline at a fearful rate of speed. The train kept the track until they got on a trestle work having a reverse curve, when the front engine flew the track dragging all the men, 69 cars and locomotives after it, all going rolling and tumbling down a steep hill, between 80 and 100 feet high. Seven dead bodies were found amid the wreck, and more are missing. Each train consisted of a conductor, two brakemen, fireman and engineer; in all 15, not one of whom can be found.

New York, 23.—The Northern Pacific has made contracts for delivering within a few months a hundred locomotives, 3,000 freight cars, 56 passenger cars and 10 freight cars. The company reaffirms the statement that the entire road will be completed and ready for business in September next.

ST. LOUIS, 23.—A dispatch from the Indian Territory says a party of men who have been selling liquor in different parts of the Territory in violation of the law while in camp on Lee's creek, a day or two ago, got into a row among themselves and Hawk Pete, a native desperado, was killed, and Geo. Maxwell mortally wounded.

Kansas City, 23.—The charge of murder against Frank James was withdrawn this afternoon. In the robbery case his bail was fixed at \$3,500.

Orangeville, S. C., 23.—The trial of Grant White, colored, for murder, is progressing before a jury composed entirely of negroes.

New Orleans, 23.—T. C. Anderson, colored, distributing clerk in the postoffice, is arrested for larceny of letters; twenty opened and unopened letters were found with Anderson.

Milwaukee, 23.—A terrible crime was discovered at noon to-day. The wife of John Zemperic, a laborer, living on Sixth Street, killed her three children, the oldest nine years, the youngest eighteen months, in the most brutal manner, literally cutting them to pieces and completely disemboweling them. The neighbors' attention was attracted to the scene by the woman's attempt to hang herself in an out-house. They cut her down and took her inside, when the horrible spectacle was discovered. Mrs. Zemperic was at once arrested. She took her arrest very calmly, stating that she had read to sacrifice children in the good book. The woman is doubtless suffering from religious insanity.

She kept smoothing her hair with her bloody hands, and smiled at the