

BY TELEGRAPH.

FORTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 17.—Windom presented a petition of the Negro Co-operative Association, of Shreveport, Louisiana, favoring the passage of the resolution in regard to the migration of colored people. It was signed by large colored congregations of that place. Laid on the table. The resolution is now before the Senate.

The vote was reconsidered by which the House bill authorizing the conversion of national gold banks was passed, and amendments correcting the errors but not changing the features of the measure, were agreed to. The perfect bill then passed.

The bill to amend the internal revenue laws, containing an amendment to reduce the tax on tobacco, was then considered, the Senate rejecting—25 to 37—a motion of Dorsey to postpone the bill and take up the postoffice appropriation bill.

The bill was read at length and Bayard, who had charge of it explained there were important amendments which affected the revenue. It was known that more than one-third of our excise duties were drawn from the single agricultural product of tobacco. Since 1875, the tax had been 24 cents per pound on every variety of manufactured tobacco, excepting snuff, which was subjected to a tax of 32 cents per pound. The House sent the Senate a proposition to reduce the tax on all manufactured tobacco to 16 cents per pound and on snuff to 24 cents, being a reduction in the same proportion. The House also sent the Senate a proposition for the establishment of export bonded warehouses. The Senate committee thought the establishment of such warehouses would jeopardize the revenue, and therefore would not consent to the proposition.

Morrill, chairman of the committee on finance, said he did not approve of sweeping reductions proposed for manufacturing tobacco and snuff. It was not only inexpedient to reduce this taxation, but it was a bar to granting any further relief from taxation. All over the world, tobacco had been universally recognized as a prominent article of taxation. We consumed every year more than 40 cigars and more than two pounds of tobacco for every man, woman and child in the country. To gain as great a revenue at 16c. per pound, as at 24c., there must be an increase in the consumption of from 105,000,000 pounds to 158,000,000 pounds annually, and that would never be.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 17.—During the morning hour Hale, under the call of States, offered a resolution directing the committee on judiciary to report a joint resolution proposing a Constitutional Amendment to prohibit the payment of war claims except of persons loyal to the Union.

A motion to adjourn was made on the democratic side, and roll call consumed the remainder of the hour, and the resolution went over without action.

A motion to suspend the rules was made by Sparks, for the purpose of passing the bill appropriating \$26,552,200 for the payment of arrears of pensions.

On motion of Rice, the bill was amended by a vote of 178 yeas to 67 nays, to include special pensions and pensions granted on account of soldiers who enlisted in the war but who died from disabilities incurred after the cessation of hostilities.

The bill appropriates the amount stated out of any money in the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated.

Reagan moved to suspend the rules and pass the river and harbor appropriation bill. Agreed to—yeas 173.

Blount moved to suspend the rules and pass the deficiency bill reported by him on Saturday from the committee on appropriations. Agreed to.

Pending the District of Columbia business a recess was taken until evening, when were held the memorial services of the late Representative Schleicher. Adjourned.

W. B. Fleming, successor to the late Julian Hartridge, took his seat to-day.

AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 17.—The following is the sifting of many rumors current respecting the Union Pacific. That the syndicate which includes Russell Sage, James R. Keene and several others of large means this morning bought from Jay Gould seventy thousand shares of the Union Pacific stock, some of their number having before bought thirty thousand shares, so that the entire holdings of the syndicate are now one hundred thousand shares which have been acquired at a cost between 70 @ 75. The transaction is to be followed by a re-organization of the board. Included in the list of those likely to go into the board are the names of Solon Humphreys and John J. Cisco.

It was said with some emphasis that Gould will retire from the direction on March 1st, and that two gentlemen of acknowledged ability and character will be added to the board. Gould, according to the better informed, was the holder of 170,000 shares, and of these he has sold 100,000, at a price not far from 70. As he began to purchase stock at something below 30, an idea can be formed of the great profit which his transaction has brought him. It is understood Gould has for some time contemplated retiring from active business, and that this is one reason for this step. A gentleman well informed as to Gould's affairs stated the sale of his Union Pacific interest was the greatest operation in the eventful history of this remarkable operator, and he was probably to-day, wealthier than ever before. The purchase, it is claimed on the part of the syndicate, would give them such a hold upon Gould that they could keep him to his agreement to work with them for the full company, and if he proved false they could throw their Union Pacific on the market and break it down. Even in Wall street it is seldom that a single transaction for \$7,000,000 is made, and the sale of that amount of Union Pacific stock following closely on the transaction for \$3,000,000, which it now appears was recently made, attracts great attention. The Union Pacific, although earning dividends for several years has nevertheless been dormant, people being afraid to touch it because there was such a concentration of stock in single hands, and because one man could at any time he wished sell such an amount of it as to temporarily overrule all considerations of value or speculation. Now that the large block in Gould's hands has been distributed, the stock is expected to become active. Men on 'Change declare Gould recently settled his bear contracts at the prices demanded by the bull clique, and in addition bought stocks for long account. In consideration of this the syndicate contracted to take 100,000 shares of the Union Pacific at sixty or sixty-five, and that the check was to-day handed him for the entire amount. On the other hand it was asserted that in reality Gould only made an arrangement whereby the Company should nominally pass out of his control, it being well known that this course will lead to a sharp rise in Union Pacific stock. The last rumor is Gould sold stock to transfer the control of the road to Boston stockholders. Union Pacific first mortgage bonds sold up to 110 1/2 per cent., the highest point ever made in the market.

The Union Pacific railroad earnings for fourteen days in February, show an increase of \$80,000 over the corresponding period last year. The estimated increase for this month \$125,000.

CINCINNATI, 17.—A misplaced switch, in the yards of the Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Lafayette Railroad, yesterday morning, threw the incoming locomotive into a tank car loaded with oil, which took fire, and burned a number of cars. Loss, \$7,000.

AUGUSTA, Me., 17.—A frightful catastrophe occurred in the village of Somerville, 30 miles from Augusta, on Friday. Ephram Kysler and wife left home in the forenoon to do some trading, leaving their three children aged 4, 2 1/2 and 8 months alone at home. The house caught fire, and before aid arrived the building, with its contents, was destroyed, three children perishing in the flames.

CHEYENNE, 17.—Headquarters Battalion 5th Cavalry, in field on Antelope Creek, Neb., 13, via Fort Robinson, Neb. 16.

The battalion of the 5th Cavalry, commanded by Major Ferris, which left the camp on Snake River on

the 4th inst., for a six days' scout through the great Sand Hills, crossed Clifford's and Boardman Forks to the Loup and down one day's march; thence back to the head waters, and making a wide detour to the left returned to camp on the sixth day. Two camps were made without wood or water. The thermometer was 30 degrees below zero. There is great suffering in the command from cold and snow-blindness. It was impossible to follow the trail of the Cheyennes owing to the great depth of snow.

ST. LOUIS, 17.—Col. Clinton, chief engineer of the Chicago and Alton Railroad, and M. Merriweather, his assistant, were arrested, yesterday, at Independence, and held in \$3,000 to await the action of the grand jury for criminal negligence in excavating the cut at Kansas city which caved in last Tuesday, killing six workmen.

WASHINGTON, 17.

The Potter committee, to-day, placed on file the affidavits of Judge H. C. Ripley and H. M. McIntosh, to the effect that during the sitting of the Florida board of State canvassers, they called at the office of the attorney general, and met at the door Attorney General Cooke, who stated that he had twice been to the office of the Secretary of State, and had found the door locked, and that while standing in front of the secretary's office, they saw Governor Stearns and General Noyle come out and walk across to the governor's office. McIntosh adds that Judge Cooke said to him: "These infernal scoundrels, McLin and Cowgill, the two other members of the board, have got me licked out," or words to that effect.

LITTLE ROCK, 17.—On Friday night three masked men halted the mail stage, three miles west of Pine Bluff, robbed the passengers, ripped open the mail bags, and rifled the contents. No clue.

SAN FRANCISCO, 17.—A Victoria dispatch says: Her Majesty's steamer *Osprey*, four guns, is taking in coal and ammunition under orders for Sitka, in response to an appeal from the citizens there. She sails to-night.

The situation in Alaska is regarded as critical here, and the action of the authorities, in leaving the territory undefended, much commented on.

The *Bulletin* says: It is a striking fact that while the federal government receives sufficient income from Alaska to pay four per cent. on the original purchase money, that territory has no protector, no authorized government, and the few inhabitants are, to-day, in immediate peril of extermination, and have appealed to the British authorities at Victoria for protection. The dealings of the federal government with this territory are without precedent. It cannot be said that it is neglected on account of its worthlessness, because the agents of the government have shown its natural wealth to be great. Some months ago the only company of soldiers stationed at Sitka was withdrawn; since which there has been a little more than the shadow of self government. The Indians, understanding the situation have, for some time, been menacing the settlers, and at last accounts, begun the work of destruction.

The *Alta* says: Years ago nothing would do but we must purchase Alaska. Our government purchased it, and did various things to induce its settlement; but all at once, in a contemptible fit, abandoned the people to their fate; to the tender mercies of savages who knew no mercy, to the very class as those who put to death the officers, crew and passengers of the steamer *Wright*, some years ago. The people of Sitka have been left unguarded, unprotected, and apparently uncared for by the executive and Congress, and now comes the cry of abandoned American citizens of Alaska for aid. Hoping for none from our own government, our nation is stamped with the disgrace, before the civilized world, of having our people apply to the representatives of a foreign government for protection and the reasons given for this appeal to the British for protection is based on the fact, as the petition says: that we have made application to our government for aid and protection and thus far it has taken no notice of our application.

NEW YORK, 18.—The *Times* has a leader again, to-day, on the Chinese bill, declaring that it sets at naught a solemn compact, spurns the obligations of international

courtesy, casts reproach upon the good name of the country, and puts an end to the distinctive glory of America, maintained throughout a century, of being the open-gated home of all nations. No one can suppose China will receive this wanton insult without retaliation at an hour and in a way to do most harm.

The trade of San Francisco with China is already enormously greater than with any other country in the world. Since the opening of the Pacific Railroad, San Francisco has become the great entrepot for the reception and distribution, on this continent, of the products of Eastern Asia.

The writer shows that, the export trade of San Francisco, is also greater with China than with any other country, while the presence of such items in the list as 3,400 boxes of clocks, indicate that the Atlantic seaboard has a peculiar interest in the Chinese question, as well as the Pacific; that the Connecticut trade is imperilled by congressional folly, as well as California. The Anti-Chinese bill, in a word, is a fit mate for the pension arrears act, and both are surrenders to demagogism. The pension bill was a bait for the votes of ex-soldiers, and the passenger bill for the votes of California, Oregon and Nevada. It may yet prove that the latter will cost, even in money, more than the former.

The *World*, this morning, lectures Bayard and Thurman for voting for the Chinese bill, saying: "No doubt, it may have occurred to them that the next House of Representatives will be very closely balanced between the democrats and republicans, and that there are a number of greenbackers in it, and that Kearney is still a name to conjure with in the land of gold."

The *Tribune* remarks, in its paragraphs, that five candidates for the presidency have convinced themselves they have secured the Pacific delegates by voting that the Chinese must go. Some of them may discover they have been deluded. Kearney was a failure in Massachusetts but the congress of the United States trots at his heels.

The *Times* says: Nobody at all familiar with the Chinese political affairs will be surprised at the statement that the Chinese embassy in Washington favored the passage of the immigration-restriction bill. The Pekin government has no more concern for the welfare of its handful of subjects in this country than it has for the insects which live and die in a day. But that government does very much concern itself with everything that relates to the immigration of Americans and Europeans. Its attitude has always been, and still is, one of resistance to all foreign interference and foreign trade. If China could safely do for American traders and travelers just what the Congress of the United States has now done for the Chinese immigrants, it would make haste to do it. There never has been any willing concession by China to foreigners, and if the traditional Chinese wall could once more isolate the celestial empire from the rest of the world, it would be a joyful triumph for Chinese diplomatists. The abrogation of the Burlingame treaty will certainly be a long step in that direction, and an abundant reason to suppose the victory of the anti-Chinese party in the United States is no less a victory for the anti-foreign party which rules China.

The *Washington* correspondent of the *Cincinnati Commercial* says: There is little chance of the President vetoing the Chinese bill. He has repeatedly expressed himself favorable to the restriction of Chinese immigration. Secretary Evarts, however, opposes the summary repudiation of treaty obligations, and will do all he can to induce the President to veto it.

The *Commercial Bulletin*, here, gives, on the authority of a gentleman 15 years a resident of China, who traveled wherever foreigners were allowed, the following: There are two establishments belonging to the Chinese government where shipbuilding of modern pattern is successfully carried on, the arsenal at Foochow and another just above Shanghai. Both are superintended by Frenchmen, who amply provide them with everything for the production of ships and implements of war. At first a large number of foreign artisans were employed, but these were gradually supplemented by natives, and at the last account, out of 1,500 workmen employed, not more than 300

were foreigners. At these arsenals have been built ferryboats, revenue cruisers, dispatch boats, and sloop-of-war, ranging from 100 to 1,000 tons register, some of them beautiful specimens of naval architecture, and, in every sense of the word, fitted with all the latest improvements of machinery. Some of the largest class are intended for the navigation of China, where as tempestuous weather prevails as is encountered in any quarter of the globe. The Chinese government, in fact, now own steamers in every respect fitted to undertake the longest voyage and to attain a very high speed, and are also provided with the latest improved armament. There is no lack of trained seamen. There are two training ships at each of the above arsenals, where 200 Chinese youths are being converted into sailors, many quite advanced in their studies. Several classes having graduated are now employed as under-officers in vessels. Several of the "merchant's line" now running, have lately been put under Chinese captains.

The Chinese know what marine insurance is and are not dependent upon western underwriters for reaping the advantage of the system. Two such companies are existing, one at Hong Kong, the other at Shanghai; both are well managed and doing a prosperous business.

The *Bulletin* thinks facts like these, unknown to the average congressman, will impress the great body of the American people, whose good sense will duly vindicate itself, and politicians with the cheap labor cry, be ashamed of their record.

The *Times*, editorially, on Alaska, says: There exists the anomaly of a community over which floats the American flag, but destitute of even the shadow of a civil government. What is a government by a collector of customs? There is neither law nor precedent for such a legal fiction; and there is, in Alaska, nothing more formidable than an inspector or two to enforce the authority of the officer supposed to represent the government. It was a great mistake to withdraw the handful of troops left in Alaska. The people of the United States do not take kindly to military law, it is true, but in default of this we have given over Alaska to absolute anarchy. It may not be worth while to organize a territorial government for Alaska, and no form of civil government short of that would be possible; but if Alaska is not to be abandoned to primitive barbarism and desolation, the authority of the United States must be there maintained.

A snow storm has left the streets in an almost impassable condition, and has had the effect of causing a dullness in all branches of trade, notable in the business along the wharves, and as a consequence the California market is quite dull, nothing of moment having been done to-day.

HARTFORD, 18.—The House, to-day, unanimously adopted a resolution declaring that the proposed law restricting Chinese immigration is in flagrant violation of a sacred and honorable treaty, and wholly inconsistent with the principles of and traditions of our republic and with the broad principles of human freedom, and it earnestly hopes that its provisions may never disgrace our national statutes.

CHICAGO, 18.—The *Tribune's* Washington special says: On yesterday's legislation in the House, on the river and harbor bill and pension appropriation bill, without a word of debate, voted to take, in round numbers, \$35,000,000 from the Treasury in the face of the fact that the Secretary of the Treasury has notified Congress that, without making any provision for a sinking fund, there will be a certain deficiency of \$27,000,000. Meantime nothing has been done by Congress to provide government with means for meeting these enormous drafts upon the Treasury. Yet, at the other end of the Capitol, senators were attempting to force the passage of a bill, the tobacco tax reduction bill, which the Secretary declares will deplete the Treasury of \$16,000,000 more, making a certain deficit of \$43,000,000. It is little to be wondered at, that in view of this reckless management of national finances, the more conservative congressmen declare Congress has gone mad.

WASHINGTON, 18.—The President nominated William Garvey, of