

## BY TELEGRAPH.

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## AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 27.—Promoters in Washington of the Nicaragua inter-oceanic canal enterprise, have become considerably alarmed by intelligence lately received from Europe in regard to the activity of Lesseps and the friends of his Panama scheme, and are beginning to bestir themselves in earnest in order to secure early action by Congress upon the bill introduced by Morton in the House. They fear that unless some action is taken soon, to show that government is in earnest in its determination to enforce the Monroe doctrine, and ready to pronounce decidedly in favor of the Nicaragua project, Lesseps will gain such headway and support in favor of the Panama enterprise that the former will prove abortive.

Robert M. Wilson, agent of the Payne Oklahoma colonists, succeeded on Saturday in securing an interview with the President. Wilson was accompanied by "Colonel" Boudinot, a half breed, who acted as spokesman. The President received Wilson courteously, and, after hearing his story, frankly but bluntly replied that during this session of Congress he would take no action whatever in the direction of anything like an abrogation of the treaty. The attorney general had, after careful consideration of this subject, rendered an opinion which, for the present, must stand as the construction of law. In the meantime, however, the President said, if Wilson can bring forward any valid reasons for so doing, the attorney general might review his opinion.

The board of naval officers will meet on January 6th, to consider the case of each commissioned officer on the active list before the grade of rear-admiral, and report to the Secretary of the Navy for his consideration the date from which, in his judgment, the length of service of officers should be estimated in determining their precedence under existing law.

Receipts from internal revenue, to-day, \$1,103,803, and from customs \$653,728.

The investigation as to the abuse of the franking privilege shows that during the campaign nine mail bags came from New York under the frank of Senator Wallace, containing over 80,000 envelopes, ornamented by the signatures of 13 democratic senators, and members, the intention being to fill them with printed documents for circulation by the committee.

Official advices have been received by mail from Peking, bearing dates about two weeks previous to the conclusion of the two treaties signed in that city on the 17th ult., but foreshadowing their principal points to an extent which, in connection with the official telegram received by our government last month, fully corroborates the statement heretofore telegraphed concerning them in these special dispatches, and also quite clearly outlined. Some additional interesting particulars of the price, language and minor details of the new treaty on the subject of immigration will not be known here in advance of the receipt of the document, but it may confidently be expected to contain as the main provision, a stipulation substantially as follows: The Emperor of China consents that whenever, in the opinion of the United States, the coming hither of Chinese laborers, or their residence in this country affects or threaten to affect injuriously the interests of the United States, then the United States government may regulate, limit or suspend such coming or residence in such manner as the United States may deem proper. It may be noticed that this form of provision, while giving Congress practically full control over Mongolian immigration, does not involve an absolute and perpetual prohibition which the Emperor might consider offensive. The treaty, according to the latest foreshadowing, will contain some express stipulation permitting the Chinese to come here as teachers, students and merchants, and for the purposes of travel, curiosity and pleasure.

Friends of Grant severely criticize the utterances of Gen. Sherman in opposition to the proposition to make General Grant captain-general. This dissatisfaction with Sherman is not so much over the merits of the case, as because they regard this attitude of Sherman as indicating gross ingratitude. Grant's military friends

are well aware that Sherman has been under constant and deep obligations to General Grant. But for the magnanimity of the latter, Sherman's military record would have suffered severely. Aside from these things, of which the public will have a clearer idea when the publication of the records of the war is completed, it is regarded as little less than ludicrous for Sherman to sneer at the proposition to create a new office for Grant on the ground that for the life of him he cannot see what the General would have to do, or of what use he would be.

The *Tribune's* Washington special says: The President and Mrs. Hayes spent a quiet but much enjoyed Christmas at the Executive Mansion to-day. After breakfast the distribution of presents took place, in anticipation of which Mrs. Hayes spent Friday afternoon shopping on Pennsylvania Avenue. Dinner was served at 5 o'clock. The President is peculiarly a family man, and on this occasion he was radiant in button-hole bouquets. He looked the picture of dignified contentment, and no lady could prepare to resign the social honors of the White House than does Mrs. Hayes. She will entertain several lady guests this winter, most of whom are expected before New Year's day. Among these is Miss Mills, of California, a daughter of D. O. Mills.

The impression still prevails that Justice Swayne will retire from the Supreme bench after the holidays, and that Stanley Matthews will supply the vacancy.

The democrats are quite concerned at the story that Senator Davis would leave the Senate to accept an appointment on the Supreme bench, and this would result in a republican gain in the Senate, and it excites the democrats accordingly.

It is believed here that Secretary Ramsey will be elected Senator from Minnesota; that General Miller will succeed Booth in California, and that Jones will be re-elected from Florida, and the republicans expect to elect their man in Tennessee, which the democrats stoutly refuse to concede.

Morton is the favorite in New York and Oliver in Pennsylvania. It is learned that Governor Hartman will be here with 10,000 Pennsylvania militia at the inauguration.

The Ponca Indian chiefs to-day had another long interview with Secretary Schurz, at the Interior Department. Standing Buffalo and White Eagle were the principal speakers, and in making known their wants, seemed anxious about schoolhouses and educational facilities for their children. Secretary Schurz informed them that the schoolhouses now being built would be pushed to completion as rapidly as possible. He hoped the pending Indian severalty bill would be passed during the present session of Congress, and as soon as it became law, each one of them would be given a farm, the title to which would be as valid as that of a white man. At the conclusion, and after explanations by Secretary Schurz, the ten chiefs signed the paper that they had requested to be drawn up.

NEW YORK, 27.—The *Evening Post* says: Rev. Dr. Chapin died yesterday. Friends of Dr. Chapin have known for a long time that his recovery was impossible. He was born on the 29th of December, 1814, a native of New England, finely educated, and one of the brightest lights in the Universalist Church.

Dr. Chapin fretted constantly from some cause or other. He worried lest the church members would be discontented on account of his frequent absence, and if he noticed any prominent members not regularly in their pews, he would attribute their absence to his own shortcomings, and make himself miserable. Dr. Chapin's last sermon in his church of Divine Paternity was on Palm Sunday, last year. On that day it was feared he would not be able to finish the service. He went to Europe last summer, but came back no better, imagining from the fact that he met no familiar faces in Switzerland, that his friends were deserting him. He left the house but seldom this autumn, and then only for a short drive with his nurse. Two weeks ago he went out for the last time. He passed yesterday with his six grandchildren, no danger of death being apprehended until the evening. He died an absolutely painless death, so far as could be noticed, after 12 midnight.

For the last four years Dr. Chapin has complained of fatigue, which no amount of rest seemed to relieve. Frequent trips to Europe failed to do him good, and in fact unless surrounded by friends during foreign

trips, he was apt to become homesick and worry constantly until he could return. Yet such was his indomitable will, to be seen in every look and movement of the man, even when ill, that he would not allow the trustees of his church to engage an assistant until recently, when it became evident that he would not be able to preach again. Although troubled with asthma, and dyspepsia, it cannot be said that he had contracted any particular disease, and his mind remained clear.

NEW YORK, 26.—The *Tribune's* London special says: Many Americans in London are inquiring with solicitude whether General Garfield intends to retain Mr. Lowell as minister to England. There is a universal desire that Mr. Lowell should continue in the position which he has filled under difficult public circumstances and stress of domestic trouble with singular ability and general acceptance. The real truth is that no American minister has shown himself more uncompromisingly American, winning, nevertheless, great popularity among the best English people, with a wide and favorable reputation among all classes, and marked admiration from officials of conspicuous ability in the transaction of diplomatic business. I hear numerous expressions of opinion of his English friends and American alike deprecating a change.

"George Eliot's" death moves profoundly the best English circles. Newspaper eulogies, though almost unstinted, hardly overstate the general loss. Many inaccurate particulars are published respecting her life, the truth being that "George Eliot" lived in much retirement, though surrounded by a circle of intimately attached friends. Herbert Spencer contradicts the story that he educated "George Eliot," saying he knew her only after her character was formed, after she translated "The life of Jesus," by Strauss, or after 1851, when she was already distinguished by that breadth of culture and universality of power which has since made her known all over the world. A private meeting convened yesterday, at the Athenaeum Club of eminent friends unanimously resolved against the injudicious proposal for her burial in Westminster Abbey. Stanley was ready to accede to the proposal, if desired. It is now settled that her funeral will take place on Wednesday in Kensal Green.

A Durban dispatch reports that Boers have given notice that they will seize a certain city on a specified day. Boers were shelled out of Potchefstroom. They lost 100 killed and many wounded.

The authorities at Cape Town have communicated further with the home authorities in regard to reinforcements, and it is probable two regiments of cavalry, two of infantry and two batteries of artillery will be sent to the Transvaal.

CAPE TOWN, 25.—Sir George Pomeroy Colley received a dispatch from Pretoria, dated the 18th inst., communicating the decree of the Transvaal republic, stating there was no desire to shed blood, nor did the republic wish for war. It rested with the British whether the republic would be forced to appeal to arms in self-defense, which would be done with all reverence for the Queen, and with a full knowledge that it was a struggle for the sanctity of the treaties which had been broken by British officers. It was hoped an amicable arrangement would be arrived at with Major Lanyon, for the republic was anxious to co-operate in everything leading to progress. This could only be done when its independence was acknowledged. An answer was expected within 24 hours. It was in answer to this decree that Major Lanyon issued his proclamation offering pardon to all who immediately withdrew from the malcontent's camp.

DUBLIN, 26.—A circular of the magistrates in reply to Forster's circular, states that the magistrates are unable to carry out the law owing to terrorism.

A farmer's house at Portadown has been maliciously burned.

The Land League meeting which was to be held in Borris in Ossory on Sunday was prohibited. The military and police were present to enforce the prohibition. There was a riot on Saturday in Dublin, between soldiers and civilians. The police separated the combatants.

The *Gazette* publishes a proclamation prohibiting a meeting at Athgreany, Wicklow, on Sunday, which was called for the purpose of denouncing a certain individual. The *Gazette* declares Limerick Court, to

be in a disturbed state, requiring additional police.

At Cork, to-day, on the police ordering a disorderly crowd to disperse, a volley was fired at the police from revolvers. A policeman was shot but not mortally wounded.

Monaghan, 26.—The anti-League Association has issued a manifesto calling on loyal men to combine for mutual defense and to combat the hateful teachings of the Land League.

London, 27.—John Bright replies to the Earl of Carnarvon's letter protesting against Bright's speech at Birmingham last month. He says: "You comment on my speech of the 16th of November, and find in it terrible blemishes not discovered by other critics. You condemn me for attacks on sovereign aristocracy and land owners. I have defended the monarchy although defence is little needed in this country and in this region. I have warned the aristocracy of the danger I wished them to shun. As to the land owners, I have been one of the most prominent supporters of its policy, so necessary for the country and so wise for them, that had it been steadily resisted, the great land owners of England and Scotland would long ago have been fleeing for their lives, as some of the Irish land owners are reported to be doing now. I will not reply at length to your letter. I am content to leave it and my speech to the judgment of the public."

The home rule members of Parliament held a meeting in the City Hall to-day, Edwin Gray presiding. There were 37 members present. Parnell was elected chairman of the party. Parnell proposed that a vice-president be chosen, as he might be unable to attend Parliament. Justin McCarthy was then elected vice-chairman.

A resolution was carried pledging the members to consult together on important questions and to abide by the decision of the majority.

A resolution was also adopted binding the members to sit in opposition to every government measure that refused the just demands of the Irish people, especially that for legislative independence. When Parnell, coming out of the meeting, entered his carriage, a crowd detached the horses and drew the carriage through the streets.

Many of the jurors in the state trials are securely boycotted and Mrs. Dunlap and daughter, have been fired at in Monasterberce County South, but neither was hurt. Their assailant fled. Miss Dunlap secured her gun. A torchlight procession, which was to take place to-night, has been prohibited. Joseph W. Faley, nationalist and home ruler has resigned his seat in Parliament for New Ross.

Forty-two members of the rifle brigade, arrived at Galway, are assigned two gunboats in the bay.

NEW YORK, 26.—*World's* London: There is great commotion in the war office in consequence of a rumor that a Dublin mail bag has been intercepted by Fenians, on the way to London, and rifled of its contents. Whether there is any truth in the rumor or not, it is certain that the war office authorities have received no letters from Ireland since Thursday. The crisis in Transvaal, coupled with the crisis in Ireland, has raised the excitement in London to an almost unprecedented pitch. Nothing else is talked about in places of public resort, and scarcely anything else is thought about by thoughtful people but the grave troubles which beset Government on every side. The disaster in the Transvaal is almost universally ascribed to official blundering, and the number of those who ascribe the troubles in Ireland to the same cause is by no means small. It is openly charged that Natal authorities were long aware of a contemplated rising by the Dutch Boers, and that they paid no heed to repeated warnings, and took no precautions to protect themselves. When the storm broke, it is charged they were utterly unprepared to meet it, and the result of this course could be nothing else but shameful defeat and disaster. The home government has decided as usual, when it is too late to send military aid to the colonists of Natal. They were asked to do this some time ago, but the request was put aside until now. The Sixth Dragoons, it is announced, will be sent to Natal in a few days, with instructions to report to the commandant at Durban. The flower of the army is rapidly leaving England for the inhospitable shores of Ireland and Africa.

LOUISVILLE, 25.—Peter Meeks stabbed Harvey Bell in the heart,

near the market. The murderer was arrested. Both were negroes and both on a spree.

New York, 27.—Felix Heymann, a merchant of Savannah just recovered from a fit of sickness, suicided to-day.

St. Louis, 27.—Thaddeus Babber, for killing his mistress, Lizzie Schwendler, and her mother, about a year ago, and Joe Banks, a negro, for murdering his wife, on the 28th of last March, were sentenced by Judge Laughlin, in the criminal court, to-day, to be hanged in this city on the 11th of next February. Both cases will be appealed.

Allentown, Pa., 27.—Jacob Gogel and wife, residing four miles from Bethlehem, were found dead in bed this morning, their heads nearly severed from their bodies. A bloody axe was found in the apartment and the walls were splashed with blood. Jos Snyder, who boarded with the Gogels, was believed to be the murderer. He was caught by the infuriated mob, soon after the discovery of the crime, and was hanged to the nearest tree. Gogel leaves three children.

Utica, N. Y., 26.—Henry Ostrander, aged 29, shot and killed his brother, Geo. Lyman Ostrander, aged 26, at their home near Camden, this county. Henry was jealous because his little sister Carrie was caressing his brother. He spit tobacco juice into her face and George warned him to stop. Henry shot George through the eye, killing him instantly. Henry says George had his pistol half cocked, but he was too quick for him. He says George was trying to ruin the whole family.

Richmond, Va., 27.—Within the past 48 hours, four tramps have been found in a dying condition from being suffocated by the gas of the lime kiln in the lower part of the city, where such characters are in the habit of spending their nights. Two of these mentioned have died.

During an altercation, on Friday, in Halifax county, between Marion Wimbish, a white boy, aged 17, and a negro boy, about the possession of an axe, the negro attempted an assault on Wimbish with a hoe, when the latter dealt him a blow on the neck with the axe, almost severing the head from the body.

Three miners, working in Union Coal Mine, Chesterfield County, were caught by the caving portion of a mine on Friday last and killed. The accident occurred at dinner hour while all the miners, except those mentioned, were out of the shaft, otherwise the loss of life would have been very great. The victims are colored men and all leave large families.

New Orleans, 27.—A collision occurred on Sunday morning, between the south-bound passenger and a freight train, at the State line of the Mobile and Ohio Railway. Two engineers and two brakemen were killed, and several others fatally wounded.

Logan, Iowa, 27.—On Sunday evening, John Kenney, an old man, went to his room with a bucket of coals to warm the room. Some hours later the body was found on the floor burned to a crisp. It is supposed he suffocated and then burned.

Charlotte, N. C., 27.—A frightful railroad disaster occurred on the Air Line Railroad here, 500 yards beyond the Paw Creek trestle, nine miles from the city. Two freight trains left Charlotte yesterday morning in sections, one about 15 minutes behind the other. On the up grade, just beyond the Paw Creek trestle, 14 cars of the forward train broke loose and stopped after running a short distance. In the rear car were Flagman Bob Griffiths and six passengers, three of whom were colored. When the detached cars stopped Griffiths immediately jumped off, and having told the train men to notify the passengers they had broken loose from the remainder of the train, immediately started back to signal the second section. He had not gone far before he heard the approaching train, and then realized the fact that he could proceed no farther because of the trestle, which is 150 yards wide, and very heavy. He waved the flag as the engine in charge of Engineer Wassenberry came in sight, and the engineer expressed his recognition of it by immediately blowing on brakes; but his train was heavy and he was nearing the bottom of one of the biggest grades on the road, hence it was impossible to stop. As soon as he realized these facts, and before crossing the trestle, he reversed his engine and continued to blow on brakes. Realizing the catastrophe, he left his seat and standing in front of the fire-box, with his hand on the