

## BY TELEGRAPH.

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

## AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 21.—As far as can be gathered from the best sources, the following is the explanation of the appointment of ex-Senator Sargent to the German mission: The President is an old and attached friend of Mr. Sargent, and has a firm belief in his ability, experience and purity of character. His mind was made up to call him to the Interior Department last December, but some complications growing out of Eastern pressure, and the earnest request of the Iowa delegation for Kirkwood's retention, induced him to delay Sargent's appointment. Meanwhile, it became known that he intended to call Sargent to the Interior Department, and there was an alarm raised among Indian ring thieves and land grabbers, lest his appointment would effectually block their little games. Sargent was approached by persons secretly representing these interests, but was found to be characteristically unwilling to give any assurances as to his future course. On this a fusillade commenced in some of the Eastern papers, the most of which doubtless did not know the motives for the attacks which they published. These motives were carefully kept out of sight. It is understood that the campaign against Sargent in the East and in California has cost his assailants a very large amount of money, estimated as high as \$100,000. Some influential parties proposed to withdraw opposition to his appointment if they could name the principal officers under him, who might be supposed able to influence his administration, but he disdainfully rejected this overture, and the fight went on. He has come here to attend to the disposition of a case into which he was invited by the Attorney General to appear on the side of the government in which homestead and pre-emption settlers and some small ranch holders who had appealed to the Attorney General for help, were on one side, while on the other side were the Carpenters. The latter wanted 22 leagues of land and the settlers wished to confine them to two leagues. The position of Sargent in this case, and the bold stand taken in his brief against the land grabbers, trouble all that tribe, not only for what might be done in the Sabtrant case alone, but on account of what might be expected from the decisions in all such cases if he were Secretary of the Interior. Sargent stood the consequent abuse with philosophy until recently, when he sent word to the President by a Senator that he cared very little for the office except for vindication, and he simply asked for a speedy settlement of the question, and hoped his name would not be further considered if it would embarrass the President. President Arthur replied that the manufactured stuff published in various quarters had no effect in shaking his good opinion of his friend, whose business capacity and integrity he well knew, and that he would show his confidence in Sargent very soon. Shortly following this conversation Sargent's name was sent to the Senate for one of the four principal missions authorized by Congress, and in a few days he will be minister plenipotentiary and envoy extraordinary to the German empire, with a salary of \$17,500 a year.

Agent Curran, who was connected with the Nebraska Star route cases has just returned to the city. His explanation of the cause of the failure of the prosecution confirming the theory held by Col. Bliss before the details were received. The postmaster at Sidney, upon whom the government relied to prove the case, declared up to the very moment of being sworn that he would stand by the government. As soon as he appeared there, however, the lawyers for the defense took charge of him, and his treason broke down the case. It is an interesting commentary on the dispatches sent out from Omaha at the time, saying the defendants were highly respected citizens; that this same postmaster, Frederick A. Cleary, is shortly to be tried for perjury, having given false returns of the arrival and departure of the mails, etc. The evidence is documentary, the prosecution having over 1,000 returns by him in its possession, and his conviction is thought to be certain.

T. A. Idings, of Gilmer, Salisbury & Co., large mail contractors, and Solomon Starr, who made similar returns as postmaster at Deadwood, are to be tried also.

First Assistant Postmaster General Hatton decides that a magazine intended for a campaign circular, and containing advertisements, must pay a postage rate of three cents an ounce, unless it appears the actual subscription list would support the magazine without such advertisements. In this event the publication would fall within second class mail matter. It is held that campaign publications are in one sense educational in character, and therefore second class matter, but if advertisements form the principal part of the publication it loses this character and then becomes simply a business adjunct, and third class matter.

The House committee on elections decided to report in the case of Campbell against Cannon, of Utah, that neither contestant nor contestee is entitled to the seat, and have declared the seat vacant.

Secretary Hunt has received a cable from Hoffman, St. Petersburg, as follows:

"Your orders of January 15th have reached Melville. He answers as follows: On road to Arctic Ocean, January 31st. Telegram of January 16th received. Now on my way to Arctic Ocean. People will be found."

New York, 24.—The condition of trade in New York for the week has been a fitful and feverish one in business circles, and has witnessed much fluctuation in values, both of securities and merchandise.

The World says: The bill which the Senate yesterday passed, restoring to Grant certain military honors and emoluments voluntarily resigned by him when he accepted the Presidency of the United States, should have been enacted before Grant consented for the third time to appear in the field as a Presidential candidate. It would have come from Congress with better grace than now, and its benefits might have been accepted by Grant without damage to his fame, which is now likely to be done. The southern senators who voted yesterday for the bill, on the ground that they wished to prove their sincere respect for the Union, ought to know that respect for the Union can be much better proved by frank and consistent opposition of southern public men, to measures which they do not believe to be judicious and beneficial, than by a magnanimous support of such measures. No public man has a right to be magnanimous in dealing with public interests.

The brig Hook arrived this afternoon from Port Spain, Trinidad. She brought Napoleon Metherin, the seaman lost from the steamship Bahama. Metherin was picked up on the 16th inst. in lat. 32 degrees and 25 seconds; west long. 73 degrees and 12 seconds. He had been floating on the deck house six days.

The Times Tappan New York special says: At a late hour last night some person or persons entered the grounds of Andre Hill, at this place, and badly defaced the monument erected several months ago to mark the spot where the spy, Major Andre, was hanged during the Revolutionary War. This morning a small American flag was found floating above the monument, and some patriotic verses were written below it.

Deputy Collector Briggs and the physician of the steamship Servia, have been held in heavy bail to answer the charge of smuggling. Briggs was appointed Deputy Collector by Collector Merritt, the present Consul General at London, and who was represented to have procured a clerk for Briggs, but that is now denied.

LAREDO, Texas, 24.—The International stage line from Laredo, Texas, to Monterey, Mexico, has withdrawn one relay into the Interior of Mexico. Passengers from the United States for Monterey or further south, now leave Laredo, crossing the boundary line of the two countries by rail over the Mexican National railway, and take the stage at Jarita.

LOUISVILLE, 24.—A two story frame house on Hancock Street, occupied by a negro named John Legree, was swept off its foundation. The family were sitting down to breakfast, and had no warning of the flood until it struck the house with a crash, and bursting the door open, flooded the room. Everything in the room was upset, the stove thrown over, and the lamp dropped on the bed, setting it on fire. The flames, however, were soon extinguished. The whole family scrambled up stairs, and stood at the door watching the water creep up, inch by inch, until it touched the floor beneath their feet, and they were finally rescued.

The water struck the Kentucky rolling mill like a tornado, sweeping everything off the ground floor, effectually ducking several of the workmen.

About two squares east of where the disaster occurred, the ground is very low, and the water flooded it completely, merging houses, in many instances, up to the second story. The scene is one of the utmost desolation and suffering of many poor persons. The great slough at the cut off remains unchanged, save where the water has sunk in several places, leaving indelible traces beyond.

CAIRO, Ills., 24.—In accordance with the proclamation of the Mayor, all citizens have turned out to assist in building the levees higher. The water lacks but a few inches of overflowing.

CAIRO, Ills., 24.—The new Mississippi levee is reported broken. At 2 p.m. the greatest excitement is prevailing.

BOSTON, 24.—The wool market is quiet, with prices unchanged. Sales of the week have been 1,850,000 pounds of all kinds, including Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces; 43½ @ 45 for X and XX, and selected lots at an advance on the latter rate. Michigan and Wisconsin fleeces have been selling at 41½ @ 42½; very choice X as high as 43; for medium and No. 1 fleeces sales have been 45 @ 48, including Ohio and Michigan combing and delaine selections; all having been firm, selling 45 @ 50. Good Ohio delaine and No. 1 combing have been selling at 48 @ 50; unwashed fleeces have been in steady demand and remain unchanged; sales have been principally 25 @ 33. Fine and medium grades of California wool very quiet; sales limited. Pulled wools have been in demand and are very firm; choice super-s have been sold at 45 @ 53, down to 30 @ 35 for common. In Cape wool sales were 65,000 pounds, at 29½ @ 31; 58,000 pounds of Australia at 45. Considerable Cape has been shipped in bonds to Canada. Of Montevideo there were sales of 157,000 pounds, 35 @ 37. Carpet wools quiet.

NEWARK, 25.—This morning, Wm. Leet, aged 12, in Crabb & Co's. needle factory, was passing a coil of wire through, when the wire broke, and coiled around him, cutting him in two.

WHEELING, 24.—The flint glass manufactory of Hobbs, Brockner & Co., was almost totally destroyed by fire to-night. Loss \$40,000, insurance \$18,000. This was one of the largest factories of the kind in the country, 400 persons are temporarily out of employment.

BALTIMORE, 25.—The loss by the burning of the warehouse of Aiken, Ensley & Co., was \$30,000, insured.

WASHINGTON, 25.—The comptroller has authorized the First National Bank of Durango, Colorado, to commence business, capital \$50,000.

WEST BROOKFIELD, Mass., 25.—Eulton & Co's. boot store burned; loss \$40,000, partly insured.

ST. LOUIS, 25.—At 2.30 this morning the five-story brick building on Second and Christy Avenue, occupied by Kroft, Holmes & Co., wholesale grocers, fell in with a terrific crash and became one mass of ruins. A slight fire was immediately set in the debris, but the fire department easily extinguished it. Damage about \$15,000 to \$20,000; loss on stock \$10,000 to \$12,000.

NEW YORK, 25.—The Atchison Topeka and Santa Fe and St. Louis and San Francisco, which companies control the Atlantic and Pacific, yesterday, at a meeting with representatives of the Central and Southern Pacific at Boston, came to an agreement as to the extension of the Atlantic and Pacific R. R. The Atlantic and Pacific will call from the present subscriptions four millions cash to finish and equip its road to the Colorado River; also \$1,500,000 cash to build the central division of the A. & P. into Indian Territory.

WASHINGTON, 25.—The House committee on Indian affairs agreed to report to the House the recommendation of the Secretary of the Interior for ratification of the agreement with the Crow Indians for the sale of a portion of their reservation in Montana for use of the Northern Pacific railroad.

Senator Miller introduced a bill directing the Secretary of the Treasury to pay to the Immigration Association of California, to be used for the relief and benefit of immigrants arriving at San Francisco all the moneys heretofore or hereafter collected at that port under the law for every steerage passenger who shall have died during the voyage by natural disease. The existing law provides that the money thus collected shall be distributed among

the State Immigration Board, but a fund of nearly \$5,000, which has accrued at San Francisco, remains in the treasury because there is no such State Board in California.

Last evening the Grand Jury handed the district Attorney 20 presentments in postoffice straw bond cases as follows: Two for perjury against J. W. Minnix and C. H. Dickson; five for perjury against J. W. Donahue and W. M. Jackson; two for perjury against W. S. Barringer; one for perjury against E. J. Sweet; one for conspiracy against Kate M. Armstrong; four for conspiracy against S. F. Cabell, J. W. Donahue, C. Dickson and J. N. Minnix; four for conspiracy against A. E. Boone, A. O. Burke, W. S. Barringer, E. J. Sweet and S. C. Cabell.

In Mason's case, Captain W. P. Graves testified to Mason saying: "I hope I have blown him in two." First Lieutenant E. C. T. Richmond said that Mason approaching him exclaimed: "I hope I have killed him. I do not know whether I have or not." He also said: "I did it. I tried to kill him, Lieutenant, and I surrender myself to you. I am not coming out here to guard an assassin."

The following patents were issued to Pacific Coast inventors this week: Alex. Andre, Bakersfield, California, animal trap; Gilbert S. Dean, San Francisco, testor for explosives; Martin Hofstad, San Leandro, Cal., elastic centre emery grinding and polishing wheel; Mm. Leech, Oroville, Cal., horse shoe; Nut McLean, Watsonville, Cal., grain saving attachment for separators.

The following bills passed the House for retirement:

Wm. P. Chambers with the rank of major; Carlisle Boyd with the rank of captain.

The bill granting arrears of pension to Annie A. Hays, the widow of Major General Alexander Hays, was also passed.

The House committee on post office and post roads agreed to report to the House for passage the ocean fast mail transportation bill. The only material amendment is one which changes the maximum rate of the speed of vessels of this class from 11 to 12 knots per hour.

The Treasury will have \$35,000,000 to disburse during the first half of March, on account of interest.

The House committee on militia agreed upon a bill to amend the military law, in accordance with a petition of the National Guard to increase the annual appropriation to \$1,000,000, and distribute it to the States, in proportion to the number of militia they maintain.

The House committee on invalid persons received a petition asking that the widow of President Polk be put on the pension roll. He is said to be very poor.

The Senate confirmed as consul, Bruno Tzehek, of Nebraska, at Vera Cruz; Thomas Wilson, District of Columbia, Nantes; George Gifford, Maine, Larchello; Theo. D. Wilson, New York, Chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repair Navy, Cape May.

General Howard arrived this morning. General Sheridan and General Hancock are expected this evening. They come by special invitation of Gen. Sherman, to attend the Garfield Memorial.

Tiffany, of the San Carlos Agency, telegraphs that the Indians at that agency are uneasy and excited in connection with the approaching execution of three Indian scouts, fixed for March 3d. He says other Indian prisoners are complaining, and assert that they surrendered under pledge of speedy and fair trial and of being furnished good counsel. Tiffany recommends the President to postpone the execution of these scouts until the cases against the other Indian prisoners, arrested for complicity in the treachery for which these scouts were condemned, are decided. He apprehends trouble if the execution is carried out.

When the nomination of Conkling was read in the executive session of the Senate, a motion was made to take it up for immediate consideration.

Senator Hoar thereupon took the floor and warmly said: While he conceded Conkling's great obligation, and that no man since Webster had surpassed him in intellectual force, he believed Conkling had used his powers for bad purposes, and he did not believe him honest. His elevation to the Supreme Bench, said Hoar, with great excitement of manner, and pounding his desk with emphasis, would be a disgrace to the judicial arm, and he therefore interposed his objection to the present

consideration of the nomination, and insisted that it should take the regular course of reference to the judiciary committee.

A single objection being sufficient to prevent immediate consideration, the nomination was referred to that committee without debate or any reply to his remarks.

BURLINGTON, 25.—Judge Mason died early this morning after a short illness. He was one of the pioneers of Iowa, a prominent democrat, born at Pompey, N. Y., graduated at West Point at the head of his class, of which Robt. E. Lee and Jeff Davis were members, was assistant professor in an academy two years, and in 1836 was editor of the New York Post, while Wm. Cullen Bryant was abroad.

NEW YORK, 25.—Action for divorce on the ground of adultery was commenced to-day in the Supreme Court by Rose E. Butler, otherwise Rose Eyttinge, actress, against her husband, Geo. H. Butler, nephew of Gen. Butler.

RICHMOND, 25.—Last night the west bound pay train on the Richmond and Alleghany Railroad was ditched by a land slide. The engine tender and pay car ran into the river. The train was badly wrecked. David McKinn, paymaster's clerk was killed and five others injured.

LITTLE ROCK, 25.—The Gazette's Helena special says: The Iron Mountain and Helena Railroad has been consolidated with the Kansas City & Southern, and passes into the hands of the Erlinger syndicate, of which Mr. Fred Wolfe is the American representative. The line from Kansas City to Helena will be pushed to completion.

SAN FRANCISCO, 25.—D. J. Murphy, ex-district attorney, was shot through the neck in the police court this morning by John Marony, a policeman. Murphy was attorney for defense and Marony prosecuting witness. Murphy, a few days ago referred to Marony as an Australian convict and thief. The latter walked to Murphy in court and fired without a word of warning. Murphy fell, the blood spurting over the bystanders. Marony, while being taken to the city prison, attempted to shoot himself, but was prevented.

At Hackberry, 80 miles from Mineral Park, Arizona, J. O. Weldon, a desperate character, on the 20th inst., shot and killed, without provocation, a peaceable citizen by the name of John Bullock. The citizen rushed to the scene and opened fire on Weldon, which he returned slightly wounding Chas. Spencer. Weldon was shot through the breast and after his pistol was emptied, he surrendered. He was held in custody till the night of the 21st, when a party of 15 men took him out and hung him to a beam in a blacksmithshop. Weldon declared publicly a short time ago that he was glad Guitau had killed Garfield.

CAREYVILLE, Ky., 25.—A horrible crime committed January 28th, 1881, is just unearthed. James Bradon on his death-bed confessed that he with John and William Whitingill went that night to the house of Wiley Embry, chloroformed the inmates by throwing through the keyhole with a syringe, robbed the house then set fire to and ran away. Mrs. Embry and two children escaped; Embry and six children were burned to death.

LITTLE ROCK, 25.—The river continues to rise one-half an inch per hour. Pine Bluff reports the bank overflowing forty miles below Adamsburg, fourteen miles above Pine Bluff, is inundated, and the whole of Parolia County is under water. Mostly all the lake and river, fifty miles below have joined forces. From present appearance the island will see much destitution. Unless provisions are furnished great suffering must follow.

BISMARCK, 25.—The Tribune's Glendive special says: John Gilmore, alias Mansfield, who killed man years ago, came to town with his brother to-day. He was recognized, and the citizens gave him ten minutes to leave town. He went to the depot, where some one fired at him, seriously wounding the brother in the neck. Mansfield ran.

TRENTON, 25.—The United States Circuit Court granted an injunction restraining the New York Central Railroad from issuing more stock.

MEMPHIS, 27.—The wholesale dry goods house of Menken Bros., has just made an assignment. Liabilities estimated at half a million dollars, assets said to be nominal about the same figure. The failure is on account of the stringency of the money market.

ETNA, Pa., 27.—William Beque and a man whose name is unknown