

then or subsequently, with her or him, for when the next payment due and came I sent one half to the Secretary of War, and have continued substantially, from that day forward to the present time, to do the same. About, I should say, one and one half to two years after the commencement of these payments I reduced the amount to \$6,000 per annum; the reason of this reduction was partly because of combined complaints on the part of Evans and his partner, and partly, so far as I now remember, in consequence of an article in the newspapers about that time reflecting on the injustice done to soldiers at this fort, caused by the exorbitant charges made necessary on the part of the trader by reason of the payment of this bonus. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the above is a true statement of all the facts in the case, and is as complete as I can remember occurrences of so many years ago. The money was sent according to the instructions of the Secretary of War, sometimes in bank notes by the Adams Express, and I think on one or more occasions by certificates of deposit on the National Bank of America in New York. Sometimes I have paid him in New York in person."

Q. "Can you state the sum in the aggregate received by you under the contract with Evans, and what portion thereof you have paid the Secretary of War, including the first and last payments which you have stated were not paid to him?"

A. "The first payment to me by Evans was made in the fall of 1870, at the rate of \$12,000 a year. He paid at that rate about a year and a half or two years, and since then at the rate of \$6,000 a year. It would aggregate about \$40,000. When I sent money by express I would send him a receipt of the company, which he would either return marked 'O K,' or otherwise acknowledge the receipt of the same. When sent by express I always deposited the money personally, and took a receipt for it. I showed him the telegraph subpoena, and asked him what it meant. He said he supposed it was to state before the committee what I knew about our transactions together. I said I did not like to appear, because I thought my testimony would be damaging to or would implicate him, or give him trouble. He said he thought not, and advised me to stay and meet the committee. During that evening my conversation was chiefly with his wife, he being present part of the time and understanding the general tenor of our conversation. She suggested that I could make a statement which would satisfy the committee and exculpate the Secretary. She wanted me to go before the committee, and represent that she and I had had business transactions together for many years, and that all this money I had sent the Secretary was money she had from time to time deposited with me as a kind of banker, and that she had instructed me to send it to the Secretary for her. I told her that statement would not hold water before the committee, and I could not make it. At the same time I was so wrought up, and had such an anxiety, she pressing and pressing me about it, and having slept little since the receipt of the subpoena, and sympathizing with their condition, I did not give them a positive answer that night. They said they would breakfast about nine o'clock. I came down and met the Secretary alone, and I told him that I thought I had better leave the country, for I would not perjure myself for any one; that I can afford to have my throat cut but not to perjure myself. He said he did not wish me to do that, we could fix it up some other way. I said 'I think I had better leave the country.' The Secretary said 'I would ruin him if I left. I said, 'If I go before the committee I will ruin you, for I will tell the truth.' He was greatly excited, and when I came down stairs to leave he followed, and asked me into the parlor and said, 'I want to make a last appeal to you to stay longer.' He said if I went he would be ruined. I said I would ruin him if I went before the committee, and I left and took the limited express for New York. On reaching home I consulted my attorney, asking him if the committee could reach me by subpoena if I left the country? I stated the case to him. He asked if I was subpoenaed, and told him that I had had a telegraphic dispatch calling me to Washington; he said if a subpoena had been duly

served they could give me considerable trouble."

Question by the chairman—"Did you ever have any business relations, of any kind or nature whatever, with the late Mrs. Belknap, or the present Mrs. Belknap, or either of them, other than those arising from this Fort Sill tradership? Have you not, or have you ever had, any sum or sums of money, or any evidence of indebtedness, or securities of any sort or description whatever, belonging to either of them? Or have you at any time been indebted to either of them in any way, manner, form or description?"

A. "Never. The present Mrs. Belknap, years ago, may have consulted me on business matters; but there were no monetary transactions whatever between us, other than I have heretofore stated."

Q. "In conversation had with the present Mrs. Belknap, at the funeral of her sister, in December, 1870, or in any other conversation had with her, or another person at any time, was it the understanding that the money you were to pay and were paying was to be the money of Mrs. Belknap, the present wife of the Secretary of War?"

A. "It was not." The foregoing deposition and statement made under oath, having been carefully read over to Mr. Caleb P. Marsh, the witness, in presence of the committee, and he having made such alterations and corrections therein as he deemed just, he assents to it as a correct record of his testimony, and attests the same by his signature hereto attached. Signed Caleb P. Marsh, Washington, 29th of Feb'y, '76.

Danforth, another member of the committee, expressed, as his judgment, that the acceptance of Belknap's resignation in no manner changed the position of that officer in the country; he disagreed, however, with the chairman (Clymer) that the conduct of this officer was the legitimate outgrowth of the principles of the party in power, and he expressed the hope that there would not be a single member on the republican side of the House against the resolution.

The debate being closed, the House proceeded to vote on the resolutions, and they were unanimously adopted.

The Speaker appointed, as a committee to notify the Senate of the action of the House, Messrs. Clymer, Robbins, Blackburn, Bass and Danforth, these members, composing the committee on the expenditures of the War Department, making the report.

WASHINGTON, 3.—A large number of senate bills that had accumulated on the Speaker's table were taken up and referred to appropriate committees, and when that business was disposed of, the Speaker, Hoskins in the chair, proceeded to call on the committees for reports of a private nature, but was interrupted by the appearance at the bar of the House of the committee to notify the Senate of the action of the House in regard to the late Secretary of War.

Clymer, chairman of the committee, made the following report—

"In obedience to the order of the House we proceeded to the bar of the Senate and, in the name of this House and of all the people of the U. S. of America, we impeached, as we were directed to, Wm. W. Belknap, late Secretary of War, of high crimes and misdemeanors while in office, and we demanded that the Senate shall take order to make him appear before that body to answer for the same, and announced that the House would soon present articles of impeachment, and make them good; to which the response was made—'Order shall be taken.'"

The committee then retired, and the routine business of the House was proceeded with.

AMERICAN.

NEW ORLEANS, 2.—The House adopted a resolution disposing of the whole question of impeachment, by ordering the discontinuance of further proceedings on the part of the prosecution.

WASHINGTON, 2.—The President has nominated Samuel Hannah collector of customs at Willamette, Oregon.

Charles F. Gorham, of Michigan, formerly minister to the Hague, has been appointed assistant secretary of the interior, in place of General Cowan, resigned, and tonight Mr. Gorham notified Secretary Chandler by telegraph that he would accept.

Mr. Belknap, to-night, announces his determination, in view of the action of the House, to-day, in presenting articles of impeachment to the Senate, not to make any public statement until he can do so before the Senate in official form.

The President to-day appointed Secretary Robeson Acting Secretary of War, by the following order—

"Executive Mansion, Washington, D.C.,

"March 2nd, 1876.

"Sir,—The resignation of the Secretary of War having been tendered and accepted, this day, you are hereby directed to assume and perform the duties pertaining to the office of Secretary of War in addition to those of your own office, until otherwise directed.

"Very truly yours,

"U. S. GRANT.

"To the Secretary of War."

The President informed several republican members of Congress this p.m. that the first intimation he had of Belknap's malfeasance was from Belknap himself. An unauthenticated rumor prevailed at the Capitol early in the p.m. that Belknap remarked to the President this a.m., that when he heard Marsh was bound to testify he exclaimed, "I wish I had killed myself." To which the President replied, "I wish you had." This rumor was soon repeated in modified forms, until it assumed the shape that Belknap had actually killed himself, and many persons on the excitement of the moment believed the rumor to be true, and pains were taken to obtain information to satisfy them to the contrary. It was a matter of surprise to everybody that the testimony implicated Belknap in dishonorable transactions more closely than even his enemies had supposed. The conduct of Belknap continues to-night to be the theme of general conversation.

The following is given as the origin of the Belknap investigation: While in search for a house for his family in December, the Hon. B. B. Lewis, of Ala., was referred to G. O. Armes, real estate agent in this city; during their search for a house Mr. Armes, in conversation, stated to Mr. Lewis, that he had formerly belonged to the army, but was dismissed through the enmity of Belknap; that if he had the assistance of a member of Congress he could, in sixty days, develop a fact that would force Belknap to resign. Lewis tendered his assistance, and they subsequently had several interviews. Lewis being impressed sought the advice of Randall, who advised that the facts be brought before Clymer, chairman of the expenditures in the war department. Lewis and Armes saw Clymer, and the latter gave a list of witnesses, including Marsh. Afterwards Clymer thought Armes was acting in bad faith, as the secretary said that Armes had proposed that if he was restored to the army, and certain other conditions complied with, he would drop the matter. Lewis said if Armes was seeking only to levy blackmail, of course they could have nothing to do with it, but he advised, as Armes had furnished the names of witnesses, that they be called and examined.

The President, in conversation with friends to-night, stated emphatically that he was not aware of the enormity of the charges against Belknap at the time he tendered his resignation and the President accepted it. From the hurried and incoherent manner of Belknap's communication to him, the President drew the conclusion that Mrs. Belknap and not her husband was the guilty party, and that the general assumed all the responsibility and censure in order to shield his wife. Although he did not inform the President that he was actually guilty himself, he confessed that he was not free from blame. The President says that if he had known the full measure of Belknap's guilt he would not have yielded so readily to Belknap's appeal in accepting his resignation in the mild terms he did, but would have demanded that official relations between them should immediately cease, and that Belknap should at once vacate his office and take all the consequences of his official misconduct. The President had no suspicion up to 10 o'clock to-day that Belknap's official conduct was the subject of investigation, and nothing could have occasioned him more surprise than the communication made to him by

Belknap himself at the time he presented his written resignation.

SAN FRANCISCO, 2.—The libel suit of Simonton vs. the *Alta* has been transferred to the U. S. circuit court on the application of defendants to avoid the taking of depositions of D. O. Mills and Michael Reese as to the cause of the failure of the Bank of California, as ordered by the third district court.

A letter from a well informed gentleman of Victoria, a member of the British Columbia legislature, says, with reference to the existing differences between the Province and the Dominion, that there is a growing feeling of dissatisfaction at the treatment the province has been receiving at the hand of the Dominion government, and, with it, a desire to separate from the unpleasant and unprofitable connection, on account of the non-fulfilment of the terms which induced them to cast their lot with Canada; but there is a total absence of desire to throw off their allegiance to the mother country. If there is an impression to the contrary abroad, it is erroneous.

Ex-Senator Stewart expects to leave next Tuesday for Washington, to testify before the House committee on foreign relations in the Emma mine investigation. In an interview this morning he foreshadowed the general tenor of his evidence, to the effect that on first meeting with Lyon, at Washington, in the early part of 1871, he was favorably impressed with the merits of Lyon's claim to an interest in the Emma mine, and he went to Salt Lake to push his case as his legal adviser. He thought, at the time, that Judge McKean was prejudiced against Lyon, and he endeavored to procure his removal; afterward he became convinced that McKean acted fairly and impartially. He found on examination that Lyon's claim was not as good as it at first appeared, and he advised him to compromise with the Emma company. In this connection he wrote a letter to Lyon, in which the expression occurred—

"Better have a compromise than a worked-out mine," meaning that to enforce Lyon's claim would require litigation of years and in the meantime the mine might be worked out. He went to England as agent for Lyon, with Park as agent for the company; they were at once besieged by parties wishing to purchase. They received a proposition from Cortes & Hankey to buy half the interest for two million, they to put the stock on the market; they also selected Professor Silliman to report on the mine. Albert Grant then put in an appearance, and at his suggestion "I got Schenck to come in as director, believing at the time that the mine was valuable property. When the storm was raised about Schenck's being a director he resigned, but he held on to his stock, still believing it valuable, and he subsequently lost on it. Neither Schenck nor myself received any stock as a gift. My own was received for services to Lyon in a professional capacity. Schenck bought his, and raised the money to pay for it. Lyon then wanted to realize on his interest, and he gave me a bill of sale, and I gave a note for \$150,000 to Park, who advanced that amount to Lyon. Lyon then began to sell short and circulate stories in depreciation of the mine. The stockholders sent a committee to examine the mine, who reported all right. The stock kept up, and Lyon could not cover his shares. He then threatened to commence a suit to recover an additional amount for his interest, which was compromised by Park's paying him fifty thousand dollars more, which he also lost in selling short. In the summer of 1872 I went to Salt Lake in the interest of the Emma Co. The mine having been jumped by the Illinois Tunnel mine, was then looking well, but shortly after a fault occurred in the lead. The company ran about sixty feet into a hanging wall, and stopped instead of going down on the lead. I believe the mine is still very valuable if properly worked. Since quitting operations the Bay City Tunnel Company has run under the old Emma workings, and is in rich ore on the Emma ground. Lyon has been making a living for years by litigation; his evidence before the House committee is a tissue of falsehoods."

Stewart did not attempt an explanation of the manner in which Schenck raised the money to buy his stock, not being familiar with the details, but he presumed he got a portion of it from Park.

WASHINGTON, 3.—The signal service reports that an Italian bark, bound for Baltimore, went ashore near Tybee Island on the night of March 1st, and went to pieces yesterday. A life-saving crew attempted to board the bark, and every man was drowned. Six bodies have been recovered; nine are still missing.

Belknap has not left his house since yesterday, and in the mean time has been called upon by few intimate friends.

Secretary Robeson, this morning, entered upon his additional duties as acting Secretary of War; he will merely attend to routine business until the vacancy shall be filled.

In the Senate this afternoon, Edmunds called up the message from the House of Representatives relating to the impeachment of Belknap, and submitted an order that the message be referred to a select committee of five Senators; agreed to. The president *pro tem* was authorized to appoint such select committee.

BOSTON, 3.—In the House, yesterday, the chairman of the finance committee made a charge, based on the authority of Lieut. Governor Knight, that \$10,000 had been paid members to carry through the new prison scheme.

RICHMOND, 3.—Ex-Governor John Letcher was stricken with paralysis yesterday; his condition is serious.

NEW YORK, 3.—A Washington special says that Senator Morton has been requested by the President to accept the position of Secretary of War. Morton had an interview with the President this a.m. The President is still greatly agitated.

BOSTON, 3.—The Senate, by a vote of 19 to 11, refused the third reading to the bill to give women the right to vote on municipal affairs in cities and towns, and to hold municipal offices.

PHILADELPHIA, 3.—The death warrants of George Fletcher and Patrick Tingley, sentenced for murder, have been received, and will be read to the condemned men this p.m.

The principal topic of conversation in the city continues to be the Belknap exposure; and rumors of even worse developments to follow are current in apparently well-informed political circles.

BOSTON, 4.—Spencer Decker, 12 years old, has been held in \$50,000, charged with causing the death of Charles H. Pressy, a playmate, 9 years old.

WASHINGTON, 4.—It is semi-officially stated that General Babcock's connection with business at the Executive Mansion has ceased.

The Attorney General has been in consultation with district attorney Wells, relative to Belknap, and the preliminary papers, with a view to his punishment, have been prepared; they will be sent to the grand jury next week, when it is expected an indictment will promptly follow. Similar proceedings will be instituted against Marsh.

SAN FRANCISCO, 4.

A dispatch from Truckee says that a heavy snow storm began on Thursday morning and continued till this afternoon; the snow is twelve feet deep on the level. On Thursday night a snowslide at Yuba Pass crushed the snow sheds for a hundred and fifty yards. A west bound freight train ran into the wreck, ditching the train, and while clearing the wreck another slide occurred half mile behind the train carrying away a hundred and fifty feet of shed, making it impossible to reach the train with assistance. Slides, in the meantime, occurring in all directions, the men refused to endanger their lives by working in the sheds. A slide near Summit, and another at Strong's cañon, carried away several hundred feet of sheds. This morning work commenced at both ends of the blockade, and the road is now clear, and east bound passenger trains of the first and second inst., from San Francisco, have passed on; west bound trains due at Truckee on the second and third will start this evening, and will probably pass Summit without trouble. Freight trains are all abandoned. It will take several days to get things straight. The passengers were well cared for, and made the best of the situation.

MADRID, 4.—All Carlisle's submitting to the government prior to the 15th instant are to be annulled.

BOULOGNE, 4.—Don Carlos started at half past two p. m., to-day, for London.