

BY TELEGRAPH.

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AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 11.—The *Herald's* Washington special says: Next week the promoters of the project for an inter-oceanic canal by way of Lake Nicaragua expect to have an opportunity to lay the details of their plan before the foreign affairs committee of the House. No route has been so thoroughly surveyed as this. The United States government having for a number of years taken a special interest in this way across. One of the engineers who has made a survey says, the passage from sea to sea will be 173 miles long. Of this 120 miles will be river and lake navigation with water so deep and so broad that there will be room enough for the largest ship to steam at full speed. Fifty-three miles only will be canal; namely, 36 miles from Graytown on this side to the dam of the San Juan river and 17 miles from the further side of Lake Nicaragua to the Pacific Ocean. The deepest cut in the whole line will be only 41 feet, while the locks will be few in number. According to reports of the engineers, this canal could be completed in five years from beginning of operations, and they say that on the highest estimates the cost will be less than \$75,000,000. The engineers' estimates bring the cost up to only \$41,000,000, but it is usual to add at least 50 per cent. to engineers' estimates in such cases as this. The company has a charter from Nicaragua, and it proposes to ask Congress to agree to a guarantee for 20 years from the time when the canal shall be completed and ships passing through it a three per cent. dividend on the actual cost, which is to be limited in the charter of the company agreeing that the cost of maintenance and working it shall not exceed \$1,000,000 per annum, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall declare in each year what, if any, are the actual net earnings which the government shall, if necessary, make up the three per cent. for 20 years after the completion of the canal. The company mean to propose further that the United States shall, if Congress wishes, subscribe for a controlling share of stock, so that the control of government shall be complete. Engineers familiar with the ground say that the work could be begun within six months from the day Congress should grant a charter, including the promise of a 3 per cent. guarantee; that with that guarantee the capital stands ready to take hold of the enterprise at once, and it is understood that the company will guarantee the completion of the canal and passage of ships through it within five years after actually beginning work on it. They propose to charge \$1.50 per ton for vessels of all sizes.

DALLAS, Texas, 11.—River very high. A large amount of lumber, drift wood, dead stock and small houses going down stream.

WASHINGTON, 11.—Postmaster General Howe has written the following letter to the postmasters of the United States:

The society of the Army of the Cumberland appeals to you for aid to procure contributions to funds for the erection of a monument at the national capital to the memory of James A. Garfield. I am sure no word is needed from me to enlist your best efforts in behalf of such a cause. By noble aspiration and by tireless endeavor to promote the public welfare President Garfield had achieved the highest honor of the republic. When he had but little passed the noon of life he fell a victim to malice so wanton as to be a menace. A monument to him will attest the nation's gratitude for his virtues and the nation's abhorrence for that inscrutable depravity which slew him. Such a structure should not be stinted for lack of means.

The nation is very rich. Let art exhaust itself on invention; let money leap to execute her design. I have but lately assumed official relations with your corps. This is my first communication to you. You are numerous, widespread, influential. You will respond to the appeal of the society of the Army of the Cumberland, and your response will show, I trust that those who administer the postal service for the United States are not the least patriotic and capable of those who work for the republic.

The sub-committee of the House committee on Territories agreed to

report to the full committee on Tuesday next in favor of the proposition to admit as a State all that portion of Dakota lying south of the 46th parallel of latitude. The northern portion to constitute as now, the Territory of Dakota. The sub-committee will prepare a substitute for the pending bill providing for the necessary machinery of government, etc.

BOSTON, 11.—Doe & Hunnewell's furniture factory was damaged by fire \$50,000; insured.

WASHINGTON, 11.—The shooting affair at the *Republican* office continues the topic of public interest here. It is charged that the articles published in the *Republican*, to which Soteldo took exception, and which he resented, were inspired by the Star route ring in retaliation for Soteldo's efforts to expose them. He was among the first who attacked the Brady administration of the Second Assistant Postmaster General's office. He published charges of fraud and corruption in the newspapers. He represented and was active in encouraging the investigation of the parties accused of complicity in the Star route frauds. They retaliated by charging Soteldo with a purpose to levy blackmail upon them, and the fight became bitter on both sides. Soteldo's friends now declare that the article exposing his visit to, and fight in a house of ill repute, and the subsequent article charging him with an attempt to bribe an employee of the *National Republican*, were the work of alleged Star route conspirators, and were published to punish him for his crusade against the ring. They point to the well known fact that until a few days ago General Brady was the chief owner of the *Republican*, and to the fact that it has been a persistent defender of the accused Star route men, and has been recognized as the organ of these men. It was the informing of his wife through marked copies of the *Republican* that goaded Soteldo to desperation. The paper he presented Barton was a written confession that Barton, while in the employ of the District of Columbia government several years ago, obtained money through forgery. Soteldo claims he had proof of this, and his purpose, so it is stated, was to compel Barton to acknowledge his guilt by affixing his signature to the paper. Then, so it is said, Soteldo intended to present the paper to the proprietors of the *Republican*, and demand in the name of consistency, as they have been scoring him for his misdeeds, that they discharge Barton. Of course Barton refused to sign the paper, whereupon Soteldo struck him and they grappled over Barton's desk. Barton is known to have said he was prepared for Soteldo if he attempted to violently resent the article. There was an old feud between the men. Soteldo has been sinking all day and night.

Barton, in justification of himself has declared he was obeying orders in publishing the article which will cost Soteldo his life, perhaps; that he was hot, as has been alleged, venting his spleen, but that he was carrying out the instructions of his superiors, which he dared not disregard. This new phase of the matter, together with the publication of the fact that marked copies of the papers containing the articles against Soteldo was sent to his wife, has considerably changed the tone of public sentiment in Soteldo's favor. At first he was greatly condemned, but his friends have made it appear that he was ruthlessly pursued, and goaded even to attacking him in the affection and esteem of his wife. He resorted to every means to keep the knowledge of his misconduct from her.

A. M. Soteldo died at the Providence hospital at 10.25 o'clock tonight.

The joint conference of the House committees on commerce, naval affairs, post offices and post roads was held to-day upon the subject of ocean mail service, and the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this joint committee that it is advisable to promote the commercial interests of the United States, by providing sufficient compensation for the carriage of ocean mails from the United States to foreign ports by American ships.

This resolution will be reported to the full committee. It is believed some measures will shortly be reported to the House, favoring liberal compensation to an American line of post mail steamers.

Senator Sherman publishes the following letter; I have seen a telegram to the leading papers of Ohio,

of Friday morning, purporting to give the testimony of Pitney before the Treasury investigating committee. I have read the testimony given by him, and there is not a word of truth in the telegram. No such testimony was given; no such scene occurred, and no letters of Senator or Mrs. Sherman were produced as alluded to. I am authorized by Senator Hale, who is mentioned, and to whom I showed the dispatch, to make the same denial. The telegram is a wholesale lie, as the testimony when printed will show.

(Signed) JOHN SHERMAN. Representatives Thompson and Atherton, to whom were referred the bill to admit Ball as Delegate from Alaska, submitted a report favoring his admission. Some discussion ensued, when Representative Richie moved as a substitute for the bill, a report that he be not admitted. Representative Atherton then moved that the proposition be laid over till the committee on Territories, who have under consideration the subject of a territorial form of government for Alaska, shall have taken action. This motion was adopted, and Ball was accorded permission to be heard when the subject again comes up in committee.

The judges of the Court of Claims were in conference to-day with the House committee on civil service reform in the preparation of a bill to relieve Congress from the consideration of all claims against the government.

The Court of Claims has adjourned till the 20th, in hopes that the President will have filled the vacancy on the bench before that date and by so doing allow the court to take up certain cases, the hearing of which has been postponed by the possibility that they might result in an equal division of the court as at present constituted.

The President has signed the commission of F. A. Tritt to be Governor of Arizona; Geo. B. Dunham, collector of Internal Revenue of the 6th district of Ohio; Wm. H. Armstrong, of Penna., commissioner of public accounts.

NEW YORK, 11.—A Washington special to the *Mail and Express*, says: The sub-committee on ways and means, charged with the consideration of all matters relating to internal revenue, is holding frequent sessions. The members are now trying to get a basis of reduction before advancing further. When that is agreed upon, they propose to scale each item of taxation. They are unanimously of opinion that the first reduction should embrace off-shoots, on the little taxes which are imposed upon proprietary medicines, soaps, cosmetics, perfumery, bank checks, deposits, matches, playing cards, amounting to about \$12,000,000. It is estimated that the internal revenue receipts for the fiscal year will reach \$150,000,000. Kelly, Randall and other leading members of the committee, favor taking off \$20,000,000 of this. They advocate the scaling of taxes on distilled spirits, malt liquors, tobacco, cigars, snuff and cigarettes, in equal ratio, after the little taxes are finally repealed. There is a decided feeling among the members of the House against the reduction of tax on whiskey or tobacco, because principally the agitation of the subject injures business on these commodities, and because it would make it impossible, under these circumstances, to reduce the tariff.

The piano case factory of C. F. Dielman & Co., West Twenty-first Street, burned to-night with contents. Loss on stock estimated at \$100,000; on building, \$30,000; insurance not to exceed \$40,000. David Stradenger, fireman, was fatally injured by falling walls.

Thomas M. Nichol, in a card in today's *Tribune*, in reply to an attack by the New York *Commercial Advertiser* in regard to the Cleveland Garfield monument, uses the following language: "All you, who glory in the name of stalwart, and who took part in the vilification and abuse of President Garfield, last summer, who sought to control his official action or degrade and destroy his character and reputation, you are responsible for his murder. His blood is on the garments of the whole gang of you, and you cannot wipe it off. You have been dealt with very tenderly, touching your grave responsibility for this crime, but everybody knows you are guilty, and you feel it yourselves in your inmost souls. It was your abuse and denunciation that 'inspired' Guiteau to remove the President, as a political necessity, and you will not be permitted much longer to

hide the stains on your hands or distract attention from them by raising dust around the heels of Blaine, by throwing mud at Sherman, or heaping ridicule on me. Your crime was not merely the murder of a man, it was the transfer of the government, by murder, to the hands of a faction of the party, which, if the question could have been submitted to the people at the time it was done, would not have received one vote in a thousand. One would think that, with such facts hanging over your heads in the clear daylight of public knowledge, you would have sense enough, though destitute of all decency, to enjoy the lease of power, the assassin gave you, while the law allows, without persistently villifying the chosen friends and associates of your victim who was the nation's choice. Why, you are the most stupid fools in the world to keep on provoking discussion of these old matters. You stand as acknowledged criminals, as morally responsible for and guilty of Garfield's murder. But against you on account of your friends and the good name of the community prosecuting witnesses are loath to proceed. But when you treat mercy as cowardice, and to guilt add insolence and defiance, you are no longer entitled to forbearance. So now if you want a reconsideration, and full discussion of the whole subject proceed with your abuse."

CHICAGO, 11.—Luke Ransome, an employee of the D. M. Osborne Reaper Company for 18 years, and manager of the Chicago office for the last nine years, was found dead in a suburb of Hinsdale this morning, half way between his house and the depot. Near him was a revolver with two chambers empty, and there was a pistol shot wound in the back of his head from which his brains oozed. There were evidences of a struggle, but no trace of the murderer. The clothes and wallet had been rifled of their contents. He leaves a family in moderate circumstances.

BOSTON, 11.—Although it is certain that Judge Wilkinson has lost over \$100,000 worth of property, no trace or evidence can be found thereof in any bank or place of deposit.

The unsettled condition of affairs on change have made lively work at the banks, where margins have been sharply called down. The clearings were fully forty millions. The week's business on change, which began with dull markets and high prices, increased daily in activity, and prices dropped steadily until today, the lowest rate on wheat was 1/2 lower than Monday's best quotations.

The ordinary day's business on change is about ten million bushels of grain. To-day's sales are estimated at nearly thirty millions. One Cincinnati operator is reported to have cleared up \$75,000 in quietly scalping the market.

SAN FRANCISCO, 13.—A Westport dispatch says: Two steamers seemed to have hold of an unknown wreck towing it south. The revenue cutter *Richard Rush* and the steamer *Gipsy* left here yesterday for the scene and are presumably bringing the wreck to this port. It is believed now to be one of the steam colliers plying from here to Puget Sound.

WILCOX, A.T., 12.—"Dandy Jim," one of the Indians under sentence of death at Fort Grant, was shot and dangerously wounded this morning, while attempting to escape, by the guard.

CHICAGO, 13.—A Washington special says: Gen. Fitz John Porter, Faiday, had an interview with the President, and explained the Pope campaign and how he had been so long misjudged. He invited the President to carefully peruse the records, as Grant had recently done. Porter will return, and in a few days press the passage of the bill restoring him to his former position.

BALTIMORE, 13.—Five trackmen were killed to-day in a tunnel of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad near the Union Depot, near this city by a locomotive on the Western Maryland road. The men were named David Grier, Timothy Kennedy, Edward Bermingham, James Irvin and Patrick McGoff, stepped from one track to get out of the way of a passing train and walked directly in front of the locomotive on the opposite track.

BRADFORD, Pa., 13.—A spark from a locomotive on the Buffalo, New York and Philadelphia road this morning fired some little oil pools near Olean, N. Y., and the fire soon spread to three iron tanks containing 105,000 barrels of oil which is

now in flames. All assistance possible was summoned from the oil regions and left here by special train. Embankments will be formed to secure the burning oil when the tanks overflow which will be about two or three o'clock. The oil will be drawn off as rapidly as possible, by perforating the tanks with cannon balls. The night is bright as day for miles around.

NEW YORK, 13.—A private dispatch from Paris, on Saturday, said: Failures were occurring in all parts of the country. The markets would be necessarily depressed for at least 60 days.

Advices from Lima, Jan. 25th, confirm the report that a treaty of peace has been signed between Bolivia and Peru without a seacoast.

The citizens of Greenwood, St. Louis Co., having resisted the sale of town property levied on under a judgment for interest on town bonds issued in aid of a R. R. which was never built. The governor has issued a proclamation declaring Greenwood in a state of insurrection and warning the people to desist from opposition to the execution of lawful process.

A special from Olean says, concerning the oil fire of that region, that the 4th tank caught this morning. Thus far 130,000 barrels, valued at \$100,000 have been burned and it is feared the fire will spread.

FOREIGN.

PARIS, 9.—The weekly statement of the bank of France shows an increase of 76,850,000 francs in gold and a decrease of 13,175,000 francs in silver.

PARIS, 10.—Joseph de Caisne, the distinguished botanist is dead.

The first trial of strength in the Senate since the elections resulted in the rejection of the bill against domiciliary visits and expulsions from monasteries, 157 to 101, showing that Jules Simon's party no longer have the casting vote in such questions.

The Island of Ceylon is suffering greatly from coffee blight. The crop is worth only £2,500,000 against the estimated value of \$6,000,000.

LONDON, 10.—Gladstone's speech in the House on Smythe's amendment declaring it impracticable so long as the Irish are unable to define where local affairs end and imperial affairs begin, has created a sensation.

The *Times* considers this manner of meeting the demand of the Home Rulers showed an unfortunate departure from the settled practices of responsible politicians.

The *Standard* says: The answer will certainly be construed as an encouragement to persevere in the agitation.

The *Daily Telegraph* declares statesmen outside the influence of the treasury considers it an invitation to reopen the discussion.

The *Morning Post* says it is a direct incitement to the Home Rulers to persevere.

The *Daily News* contends Gladstone's meaning is mistaken. There seems to be a very general impression that the government will have the utmost difficulty in securing a majority for Gladstone's closure proposal.

The Lord Mayor's Jewish relief fund amounts to £43,000. The widow of Baron James Rothschild subscribed £1,200. A special grant from the fund of £6,000, made to assist 3.5 refugees journeying from Hamburg to Liverpool, en route to America.

It is stated that the Marquis of Huntley, who fled England under charges of obtaining money by false pretenses, is proposing to leave Greece for the western section of the United States for a prolonged residence.

BERLIN, 10.—Considerable sensation has been created by a prominent paragraph in the *North German Gazette* accusing the Progressist press of attempting to influence the Judge in favor of Professor Mammoin, being prosecuted upon the charge of libeling Bismarck in his speech during the elections. Professor Mammoin denies his observations were directed against Bismarck personally, still less that they were intended to insult.

LONDON, 11.—A dispatch from Udine says the Herzegovinians have established a provisional government, and the uprising in increasing. Sixty block houses have been destroyed.

LONDON, 11.—The *Economist* says: The rate of discount for bank bills, sixty days to three months is 5 1/2 to 5 3/4 per cent, and for trade bills, sixty days to three months, 5 1/2 to 6 per cent.