

WASHINGTON, 8.

Senator Morrill is rather better this morning, and he may now recover. The pneumatic symptoms are disappearing, but his condition is yet very critical.

BOSTON, 8.—Oliver B. Chapman, a well known railroad contractor, and a director in the Union Pacific Railway, fell dead here, to-day.

NEW YORK, 8.—While the ship *St. Stephens*, hence for San Francisco, was being towed down the Lower Bay, to-day, B. Hines, a seaman, and a native of England, fell from the foreyard to the deck and was killed. The ship returned to port in consequence.

The *Tribune* summarizes Lord Dufferin's speech to the Canadian Parliament as follows: It abounds in sensible advice. He recommends great prudence in carrying out international improvements, speaking approvingly of the display at Philadelphia, and asks an appropriation for a similar one at the Sydney exhibition. He advises parliament to pass general laws both for organizing joint stock companies and to secure further guarantees for the solvency of life assurance companies. He holds and hopes that the Pacific Railroad will be constructed, being evidently reluctant to destroy the illusion of the Canadians on the wisdom and practicability of that weighty project. Except the standing grievance, that the fishing claim against the United States is still unsettled, our neighbors appear, from Dufferin's review, to be on good terms with themselves and the rest of mankind.

The *World's* Washington special says the interest felt in the decision of the electoral commission in the Florida case is so great that the business in most of the standing committees of the two houses is virtually abandoned. To-day no less than four standing committees of the House were ordered to meet, but there was no quorum in either, and it is very doubtful if they will hold any session for new business for the remainder of the session.

The *Herald's* Cincinnati special says Kenner, whom Wells, of the Louisiana returning board, charges with having attempted to bribe him to cast the electoral vote of Louisiana for Tilden, passed through this city to-day, on his way from New Orleans for Washington. He says the reason why Wells did not take the alleged \$200,000 bribe was because it was not offered to him, and one of the reasons it was not offered was because the democrats thought they had the State sure without Wells' aid.

Secretary Morrill's condition conveys little if any encouragement.

COLUMBIA, S. C., 8.—J. H. Kunkle, late republican solicitor of this circuit, committed suicide, to-night by shooting.

NEW ORLEANS, 8.—A row occurred on the levee this evening between negroes and the police; several shots were fired, and one negro is believed to be mortally wounded. Several of the police were struck with bricks and stones.

SAN FRANCISCO, 8.—A Virginia City dispatch says a mortgage on the Sutro Tunnel property for \$124,321 was yesterday recorded in the office of the county recorder in favor of the London creditors.

A Tucson, Arizona, dispatch says Gov. Safford has telegraphed the Secretary of War for arms, and will call out a company of volunteer scouts, mostly Indians, for service against the hostile Apaches.

NEW YORK, 9.—The *Tribune's* editorial says the fact that the action of the new-fangled machinery for counting the electoral votes has put a stop to a certain amount of quarrelling, and brought us a few steps nearer the settlement of our national dispute, will not blind anybody to its inherent defects. It is apparently going to solve the problems of the situation, almost as well, indeed, as they might have been solved by a game of poker; but there is nothing else to be said for it. The partisans of Tilden are as vehement and angry as ever in insisting that it is the right and duty of Congress to go behind the returns, and if the next decision of the commission should be in Tilden's favor we may look for demonstrations of discontent, and perhaps distrust on the republican side likewise; any settlement will satisfy business men, but partisans will demur in any event. We are fast coming to the result which we predicted as sure to follow the dragging of the court into politics. Already the reputation of that high tribunal is sensibly affected.

The confidence of the people in its absolute impartiality is impaired; politicians have learned by experience that it may become a tremendous engine for party uses, and that the filling of a vacancy on the bench is an important object for political chicanery and intrigue. As soon as the present difficulties are settled, we trust that there will be found enough of the spirit of statesmanship left in Congress to undo the mistake that has been made this winter, and to take up the question of a new law for determining the result of presidential elections.

The *World's* Washington special says Cameron was sitting in the Senate, to-day, when a page brought a card in to him. "Let him come here," said the Senator, and a sharp-faced young fellow walked up to the Senator's mahogany desk and handed a paper to him. The Senator looked surprised, opened the paper, looked more surprised, read the paper, and looked surprised all over. Cragin looked over Cameron's shoulder, and lay back in his own chair and shouted. The paper was a summons in a breach of promise suit brought by Mary Oliver to the amount of \$50,000. The news spread rapidly. All the old boys came over to congratulate him. Simon Jones, of Nevada, laid his hands on his head in a kindly way, and said, "Bless you, my boy. It is not every man that has \$50,000 worth of affection at 78." Christianity stood at an easy distance, and said, "Cameron, you had a great deal better have followed my example, if I am a younger man." Several of the democratic Senators crowded over to congratulate the Senator, but he objected.

WASHINGTON, 9.—The electoral commission began a closed session at 10 o'clock, to-day.

Senator Cameron says the suit against him for a breach of promise is stimulated by blackmailers, who will be exposed. The Senator some time ago procured a situation for plaintiff in the treasury department, but she was dismissed, and he declined to have her restored.

Captain C. Irving Ditty, of Baltimore, to-day, testified before the committee on the powers and duties of the House, that the reputation of J. H. Maddox for truth and veracity was not good, and he would not believe him under oath. His reputation for honesty was not very good either.

Samuel M. Shoemaker, resident manager of the Adams Express Company, in Baltimore, testified to the same effect in regard to Maddox' reputation, and stated that the transaction upon which his opinion was based occurred about seven years ago.

NORFOLK, 9.—The ball given in the navy yard, last night, in honor of the Grand Duke Alexis and the Russian naval officers was a brilliant affair.

BALTIMORE, Md., 9.—Eight bodies of the crew of the oyster schooner *Laura*, which capsized near Annapolis, in a gale, on December 10th, were recovered yesterday.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., 9.—A party of Indians, supposed to be Cheyennes, made an attack on Chares Ranch, on Horse Creek, thirty miles north of this place, yesterday evening. A force of fifteen citizens mustered, gave the Indians battle and drove them off, capturing four of their ponies. No whites were injured. A detachment of the Fifth Cavalry left Fort Russell this morning to endeavor to intercept the Indians.

DEADWOOD, D. T., 9.—On Tuesday Messrs. Dean and Young departed from Spearfish in a wagon for a hunt, and when four miles from town were fired on by a band of twenty Indians. At the first volley Dean, who was driving, received two wounds, but managed to keep his seat and control the horses, giving his companion an opportunity of using his rifle. By their great coolness and courage the men made their escape. Dean's wounds were severe, but thought not fatal.

Last night Indians made a dash on ranches a short distance from Crook City, killing Thomas Waldron, of Montana, and wounding another man severely, and succeeded in running off about fifty horses. The man who was wounded killed one Indian.

Another rich strike was made, to-day, just at the lower end of the city; eighteen cents was taken from one pan of surface earth. The claim is known as the "New Discovery."

BALTIMORE, 9.—Charles Henry Simpson and Martin Henry, both colored, were hanged at Port To-

bacco, to-day, for the murder of John W. Everett in July, 1876.

WASHINGTON, 9.—The Senate, to-day, ratified the extradition treaty with Spain.

The President, to-day, transmitted to Congress a message enclosing a memorial, at the request of a committee composed of many distinguished citizens of New York, recently appointed to co-operate with a body of French citizens who design to erect, in the harbor of New York, a colossal statue of liberty enlightening the world. The memorial is signed by Wm. M. Evarts, E. D. Morgan, Wm. C. Bryant and others, respectfully asking the concurrence of the President, and requesting him to transmit the memorial to Congress, and asking that a site on Bedloe's Island be given on which to erect the statue in commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of American independence. The President, in his message, says, "Very little is asked of the United States to do, and I hope the wishes of the memorialists may receive your very favorable consideration."

The electoral commission were in secret session from 10 a. m. until half-past 7 p. m., continuously, with the exception of two short recesses. Almost the entire time, until nearly the close of the session, was occupied with a debate, in which every one of the fifteen members, by turns, participated. Two or three justices and several senatorial members read elaborately prepared opinions upon the main points, and the discussion is understood to have been, from its commencement to its close, of extraordinary power and ability. The question of the eligibility of Humphreys was not made the subject of much discussion, nor was any vote taken concerning it. At one stage of the proceedings, however, Senator Thurman offered a resolution declaring that there was not sufficient evidence offered to show that Humphreys was not a shipping commissioner on the 7th of November. This resolution was criticised by several republican members on the ground that it might carry the imputation that if Humphreys had been such commissioner on the 7th of November, his vote would have been invalid, and the resolution was not urged, there seeming to be practically a unanimity that Humphreys' resignation was legally effected, being tendered and accepted before the election.

About 6 o'clock p. m., the debate being ended, Senator Edmunds submitted a resolution declaring that in substance the four republican electoral votes of Florida should be counted, and embodying various occasions for such declaration.

Representative Hunton offered the following substitute:

Resolved, That the election named in certificate number 2, to wit: Wilkinson Call, J. E. Yonge, Robert Bullock and Robert B. Hilton are the persons duly appointed electors by the State of Florida on the 7th of November, and that their votes, as certified by such certificate, are the votes provided for by the constitution of the United States.

This substitute was rejected by the following vote: Yeas—Abbott, Bayard, Clifford, Field, Hunton, Payne and Thurman—7. Nays—Bradley, Edmunds, Frelinghuysen, Garfield, Hoar, Miller, Morton and Strong—8.

Edmunds then withdrew his resolution, and Garfield offered the following:

Resolved, that four persons, to wit: Frederick C. Humphreys, Charles W. Pierce, William M. Holden and Thomas W. Long, were the duly appointed electors of the President and Vice President for the State of Florida, and that the votes cast by the aforesaid four persons were the votes provided for by the constitution of the United States.

The vote in detail, on this resolution, was as follows: Yeas—Bradley, Edmunds, Frelinghuysen, Garfield, Hoar, Miller, Morton and Strong—8. Nays—Abbott, Bayard, Clifford, Field, Hunton, Payne and Thurman—7.

On motion of Garfield, Edmunds, Bradley and Miller were appointed a committee to draft a report of the decision of the commission with a brief statement of the reasons therefor, to be signed by the members agreeing therein, and to be transmitted to the joint session of the houses, as required by the electoral act.

The argumentative resolution, previously offered and withdrawn by Edmunds, was adopted by the committee of three, with a few verbal changes, as their report, and about 8 o'clock p. m. it was signed by the eight members of the commission who voted for the adoption of Garfield's resolution.

CHICAGO, 9.—About 12.20 to-night, the boiler in the *Daily News* establishment, owned by Anderson, Lawson & Co.; situated on Fifth Avenue, between Madison and Washington, exploded without warning, and demolished part of the building in which it is situated, besides breaking a large amount of glass, ruining a folder and injuring the four-cylinder press to some extent; loss unknown. The engineer and four folders were in the room at the time the explosion occurred, but none were seriously injured, though they were somewhat scalded.

CINCINNATI, O., 9.—Ex-Detective Joseph White, on trial in the United States district court charged with procuring illegal votes at the late presidential election, was, to-day, found guilty and remanded for sentence. This is one of about a dozen convictions in the same court. Ephraim Holland, recently arrested in New York, is implicated in the same business, and testimony in the cases already tried points to him as the chief of the gang. He is expected to-night.

Four counterfeiters have been arrested to-day.

SAN FRANCISCO, 9.—The trial of the case of the United States against the Central Pacific Railroad Co. to receive five per cent. of the net earnings of the road from the time of the completion of the road on July 16th, 1869, to October 31st, 1874, was commenced in the United States circuit court, to-day. The amount involves \$1,836,635.10. The testimony for the government will not be very voluminous as a stipulation has been made between the counsel that all the allegations in the complaint be considered proved, except that the road was completed at the time alleged, and that the net earnings of the road amount to the sum named, \$36,732,702.

CHICAGO, 10.—The loss to the *Daily News* by the explosion, last night, is about \$6,000. Some fourteen papers, mostly weeklies, have been printed in this office.

WASHINGTON, 10.—The committee on the powers, privileges and duties of the House, this morning, examined Postmaster General Tyler relative to the resignation of Postmaster Watts, of Oregon, and Denherder, of Mich. The Postmaster General produced from the files of the department all the papers bearing upon the resignation of Watts, which show that the latter resigned his position of postmaster by telegraph on November 13th, and that the telegraphic acceptance was sent by the Postmaster General on November 14th. Watts' written resignation, to special agent Underwood, was not received at the department until December 9th. The records of the department show that Henry W. Hill was appointed Watts' successor on November 23rd; that Hill's bond was forwarded to him on December 11th, and returned approved on January 3rd, 1877, on which day his commission was sent him. It also is shown that the special agent took charge of the postoffice at Lafayette on November 14th, and removed the office to another building.

Representatives Hurlbut, Townsend, Danford, Crapo and Joyce have made their minority report in the Louisiana investigation, concluding as follows:

"For the first time in the history of this country it has been attempted to destroy the lawful expression of the State in the election of President by assuming the power in the House of Representatives to examine into any and all the polls and to purge the election, to make itself a returning board and determine by a partisan vote what Louisiana ought to have done: We regard it as the most fatal attack ever attempted upon constitutional right, as a gross usurpation of power, as subjecting in its national development the entire question of the election of President to the will or decision of the House of Representatives. What has been attempted by the democratic house in Louisiana may be done, on the same principle, by some other dominant party in any other State whose vote may be in the way of their party candidate. The cry of

fraud is quickly raised and is readily repeated and far too easily believed. Evidence is always ready to support that and any other change if great political advantage is to be gained. The only way to preserve the just balance of power is to stand by and support the formal, deliberate and lawful decisions of the tribunal constituted for the purpose ordained under the constitution, by the highest State authority, by the laws which have been expounded and sustained by proper Supreme Courts. Any other course is to substitute guess work for legitimate decision; the rule of the mob for the orderly processes of the law, controlled by the House of Representatives for the determination made by the people themselves in due and regular form, chosen by themselves. Passion and prejudice will wear themselves out in time; rash assertions of party presses will pass from men's minds, and then the case of Louisiana will, perhaps be fairly considered; and when the verdict will be that the democratic party of that State are justly to be held responsible for the continuous and organized attempts by force to annul the clear will of the majority, the same calm judgement will declare that the laws of 1870 and 1872 were necessary safeguards against such organized, illegal forces, and should be approved by all who believe in the supremacy of the law; that this much abused returning board acted in a spirit of law creating them and that their determination in the matter holds these views. The majority of the committee submit them and do not propose to follow in detail the unauthorized dissection of the vote made from partisan and biased information by the majority of the committee, but to stand upon the established law and deliberate results of the constitutional action of the sworn officers of the State, solemnly done, performed and promulgated with all the sanction of law. The undersigned submit herewith the report of the minority of the members of the sub-committee, and close this report by offering the following resolution:

Resolved—That the election held for presidential electors in Louisiana on the 7th of November, 1876, was examined into, determined, declared and promulgated by the proper authorities of said State, under all the forms of law and in conformity with the constitution of the United States.

Rear Admiral Theodorus Bailey died this morning.

NEW YORK, 10.—The *Herald's* Berlin dispatch says at a recent parliamentary dinner Prince Bismarck said he considered Midhat Pasha an able and gifted statesman, but somewhat addicted to drink. This, he believed, was the direct cause of the ex-Vizier's disgrace. The Chancellor highly praised the unblemished and patriotic character of Edhem Pasha, the new Grand Vizier, and considered him one of the few incorruptible Turks.

The extradition of William J. Sharkey, the murderer, who escaped from the city prison in 1873, while under sentence of death, is to be again demanded from Spain under the treaty just made with that country. Sharkey has been under surveillance ever since he left Havana. When last heard from he was acting as interpreter for Americans in Madrid.

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