

BY TELEGRAPH.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 31.—The democratic senatorial caucus met to make arrangements for the count of the electoral votes next week. After some discussion it was unanimously decided, in the first place, that the dominant party in the Senate will not consent to the establishment of the precedent proposed by Ingalls' resolution, or any similar regulations, deviating from the long established practice of counting the electoral vote in joint convention of the two branches of Congress in the hall of the House of Representatives. The second resolution, now on the table of the Senate declaring the Vice Prest. has no constitutional authority to count the electoral votes shall be called up at an early day, probably tomorrow, and pressed to passage at a continuous session, running through the night if necessary. Third, The select committee on this subject shall report and the majority in the Senate pass, as soon as practicable, as a substitute for Ingalls' resolution, a concurrent resolution providing in substance, that the two houses shall assemble in the hall of the House of Representatives on the 9th instant, that lists of the electoral votes shall be made by two or more tellers on the part of the House, and one or more on the part of the Senate; that the totals for each presidential and vice-presidential candidate (excepting votes cast by Georgia seven days after the time prescribed by Federal laws) shall be handed to the president of the Senate, and he, as presiding officer of the joint convention, shall announce the results in the same way as the results were announced under similar circumstances in the year 1819, 1857 and 1869, when the electoral votes of the States of Missouri, Wisconsin and Michigan were cast on days other than those fixed by general law. According to this proposed arrangement, it would be a hypothetical declaration as to what would be the total for each candidate, if the votes of Georgia be counted, or if the votes of Georgia be not counted, but it is also provided in the concurrent resolution that this hypothetical declaration shall be supplemented by the announcement by the presiding officer that "in any event James A. Garfield and Chester A. Arthur have received the constitutional majority of all the electoral votes, and are duly elected president and vice-president."

The inaugural ball promises to be a grand success, and every endeavor is being made to make it the most elaborate occasion of the kind in the history of the country. In view of the expenses attending the preparations, no complimentary tickets will be issued, except to President-elect Garfield and family. Work on the decoration of Pennsylvania Avenue will be commenced at once. The escort of the President-elect will consist of 20,000 militia and 14 companies of regular troops and marines. Previous to the ball a reception will be held in the Museum buildings by General and Mrs. Garfield, President and Mrs. Hayes, and General and Mrs. Grant. General Hancock has also been invited to take part in the reception, and it is thought, from the assurances received by the committee, that he will accept. General Sherman will be grand marshal of parade and will make the presentation at the reception. Corresponding secretary of the committee, Assistant Adjutant-General Corbin has received a large number of orders for tickets from persons outside the city.

Springer's telegraph bill provides for the appointment of a board of appraisers, under the act of July, 1866, of five persons, two appointed by the Postmaster-General, two by the company interested and one by the four previously selected, who are authorized to ascertain the actual cash value of all property, receipts, expenses, rates, charges, royalty, paid, etc., of each company operating under the law of 1866. Appraisers for each company shall meet in the city of New York within a month after the passage of this act, and to take oath for the faithful performance of their duties, appoint clerks, experts, etc., and are required to keep a record of their proceedings, preserve all evidence taken, have power and are required to examine books, contracts, etc., necessary, in order to enable them to ascertain and report the true and actual cash value of all effects. Such committee reports to be forwarded to the Postmaster General by the

1st of September, and by him printed and transmitted to Congress at its next December session.

The President authorized and directed letters to be addressed to the diplomatic and consular officers of the United States residing in the governments having adopted the postal telegraph system, and requiring them to report upon the workings of such systems in the governments to which they are accredited, and furnish all required information on the subject.

By the provisions of the act of 1866, telegraph companies are required to accept from the United States the amount of the appraised value of their property, and each of the three companies now prominently before the public, has filed an acceptance of this provision of law, and obligated itself to accept the amount of its appraised value when the same is ordered by the United States sub-committee of the House.

The Senate Committee on privileges and elections to-day examined the foreman of the Government printing office and the foreman-in-chief of the Confidential printing division, both of whom testified that no copies of the Chinese treaties could have got out in advance of their transmission under seal to the Senate.

CHICAGO, 31.—John F. Miller, California's senator-elect, has arrived. In an interview with a reporter he drew an encouraging picture for the future prosperity of his party in California. He is confident the republican party has gained a more firm foothold in California than it has enjoyed for the past fifteen years, with twenty-six of forty members of the senate, and forty-two of eighty representatives. He thinks the party is abundantly prepared to shape the future political attitude of California. The final disposition of the Morey letter will do much toward harmonizing political factions on the Pacific Slope, and has greatly strengthened the faith in the incoming administration. Senator Miller is not prepared to say what representation, if any, California will be honored with in that administration, but he says his state is ambitious for preferment. Ex-Senator Sargent and Congressman Davis are being urged forward by their friends for positions in the cabinet, the former for that of secretary of the navy or the interior, and the latter for the postmaster generalship. However, the senator is not violently enthusiastic in the belief that either gentlemen named will receive calls to fill cabinet chairs at Washington.

In response to a question as to how the people of California look upon the attitude of Gov. Murray, of Utah, in the Cannon-Campbell decision, Senator Miller was not prepared to give a very elaborate discussion. The impression, he said, seemed to prevail among a very large majority of the people that Governor Murray was right in fact, but probably wrong in having exceeded his authority. This was about the view taken of the matter by a great many people representing all political sides. A very strong disposition seems to exist, he thinks, among the anti-Mormon element to sustain Murray in the position he has assumed.

The senator briefly discussed the present financial condition and future commercial prospects of California. Just now financial depression exists, which is owing in large part to the fact that the Comstock and other mines have failed in production. The Comstock alone has entailed assessments at the rate of over \$1,000,000 a month for some time back, while other but less pretentious mines have fallen proportionately behind. The wheat crop, however, of the past year exceeded in abundance that of any previous year in the history of the State, fully one-half yet remaining not shipped. The weather for months past has been uniformly propitious for an abundant crop. It is expected the wheat crop this year will be equal to that of the past.

Senator Miller and family are now en route for Washington, but will make a brief visit to the senator's mother at South Bend, Ind., where the family reside.

DENVER, Col., 31.—Storms in the mountains have been severe for the past week. Some trains on the South Park railway had to be abandoned.

A board of commerce was organized here last night, the principal business being to take action in regard to making Denver a port of entry, the building of the Denver and New Orleans Railway, and also to protest against certain railroad le-

gislation now pending before General Assembly.

The officers of the Denver Western and Pacific Railway, say they will put on a large force this week, and push their railroad to completion and have trains running to Longmont by July 1st. The right of way has been secured and depot grounds also at Longmont.

JERSEY CITY, 31.—An exhibition was given to-day of a new fuel, a combination of petroleum and steam. The exhibition was of such a satisfactory nature, and the results are promised of importance not easily exaggerated. Colonel Rice, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, says a locomotive can be run from New York to Philadelphia for \$4 instead of \$25 as now with coal. The Commercial says: To produce combustion, nothing more is necessary than by means of the atomizer to unite dry steam and crude petroleum, only a common inch pipe being used for this purpose; one for steam the other for oil, with cocks to regulate the flow. The junction is made within six inches of a perforated brick retort, with nozzels, and instantly on a match being applied the whole interior of the furnace, an ordinary reverberatory smelting furnace, becomes instantly heated, so much so that all exposed surfaces may be easily fused. If applied to a steam boiler on a locomotive or shipboard, it is only necessary to place the retorts, made of fireclay, on grate bars, this protecting the boiler plates from injury.

NEW YORK, 31.—A Paris dispatch says: The report which De Lesseps will read to-day at the first constitutive meeting of the Panama Canal Company, states that subscriptions have resulted in applications for 1,209,609 shares, of which France subscribed for 994,508 shares. Seventy engineers, superintendents and doctors have been sent to the isthmus. Steam engines have been ordered, which will permit the employment of a number of day laborers, not to exceed 8,000. The entire capital required amounts to 600,000,000 francs, only 300,000,000 of which have been called up. The remainder is to be covered by the issue of obligations.

The meeting was largely attended, stock to the amount of 307,000 francs being represented. The report of De Lesseps was read. It seeks to show that the Nicaragua canal is practically impossible, and declares that a complete agreement has been arrived at with the United States in regard to the scheme; the only provision being that the neutrality of the canal shall be assured. All the resolutions proposed were unanimously adopted. The next meeting will be held on March 3d, when the progress of the works will be considered.

NEW YORK, 31.—Yesterday's Washington Post, in an article disciplining the democratic party in Congress, says: Scores of times a quorum has been broken and the passage of a democratic measure defeated by the absence of a few men who at that moment could have been found in a bar-room. The party is in a sad predicament when its success depends on three or four or half a dozen men whose appetite for stimulants will not give way to any higher sense, and to this complexion has it come with the democratic party in the House on more than one occasion of the greatest importance. Such men are unfit for any public position. They are a disgrace to their constituents, a reproach to the House, and an affliction to the country.

PANAMA, 29.—The Star and Herald has a dispatch stating that the steamer, Pitpan, running from Greytown to Lake Nicaragua, burst her boiler on the 2nd inst., while going over Machuca Rapids, San Juan River. Among the killed are Dr. Arguello, Mr. Mongala, merchant of Greytown, and a native, name unknown. General Urechies was severely scalded and otherwise injured. Several others were scalded more or less severely. The accident causes great distress along the river, and may have a bad effect on shipments from Nicaragua by river.

CHEYENNE, 31.—A Leader Fort Steele special says: Captain Joseph Lawson, Third Cavalry, died last night from paralysis. Lawson served through the rebellion, and on the frontier since, being one of the bravest and best officers in the service. He was the real hero at Milk River when Thornburgh was killed by the Utes, in September, 1879. His company held the Utes in check with great loss, while breastworks were being built. The Wyoming legislature specially thanked Lawson for

meritorious services on that occasion.

MILWAUKEE, 31.—The propeller St. Albans belonging to the Ludington line of the Northern Line Transportation Company, has wrecked 16 miles out on the lake. The passengers who have been out in small boats since yesterday are being picked up by tugs.

Twenty-six of the crew and sengers of the St. Albans are saved. All the boats are in but one and that is nearly ashore. The boat and cargo are a total loss.

Early risers discovered four boats far out on the lake in a blinding snow-storm, filled with people including some women. Rescuing parties, mostly police, were formed. At 9 o'clock one boat with four men, reached the breakwater, near the Northwestern depot, and were hauled ashore. They first gave information that the propeller St. Albans, which left yesterday morning to cross the lake, had discovered a leak, when 12 miles out, and in two hours had to be handled by the crew of 20 persons and five passengers, of whom four were ladies. The leak was in the bow of the port, and seemed to have been caused by almost constant contact with ice. The forward cargo was thrown over to lighten her, but the water poured in, and in half an hour put the fires out, and it was concluded to take to the small boats at 1.20 yesterday afternoon. Three have landed, but one is still out, and all will doubtless be saved.

PHILADELPHIA, 31.—At 4.35 a. m., a fire broke out on the south side of Betheden Baptist Church at the northwest corner of Broad and Spruce Streets. Three alarms sounded, but before the engines all arrived the flames communicated with Horticultural Hall, which is separated from the church by a 12 foot alley. Both buildings were soon wrapped in flames. A southerly wind communicated the fire to the houses on Spruce Street. The first of these to take fire was Edward Maule's, No. 1,409, adjoining the church. The back buildings were destroyed and the front damaged. The boarding house of Miss Mary E. Simons was damaged badly by water. The interior of 1403, owned and occupied by Thos. S. Fernan, was burned, causing a loss of \$1,500. Nos. 1,104 and 1,406, occupied respectively by Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. Gilmore, were badly damaged. Before 6 o'clock the interior of both Horticultural Hall and the church were in ruins, and a portion of the walls of the latter had fallen in. At 9.45 the fire was still burning. The church and organ cost \$182,500. Horticultural Hall was worth \$75,000; insured for \$30,000. The church insurance was placed by the congregation.

ST. LOUIS, 1.—The Republican has a special from Dallas, Texas, giving an account of the disappearance under circumstances indicating foul play, of a young Frenchman named Joseph Gravier, who claimed to be from California and who stated that his body servant had deserted him at Denison, carrying with him \$4,000 in money, and a valise belonging to the Frenchman and said by him to contain \$25,000 in gold and currency was left at the house of a Mr. Michel who had been a friend to him in his trouble. It was deposited in the bank by Michel for safe keeping. When last seen the Frenchman was with an Italian named Paul and suspicion was aroused that the latter has made way with him.

To-night the Republican received another special from Dallas, stating that neither Gravier nor Paul have yet been heard from, that dispatches to California failed to procure the identification of Gravier, and that when the authorities opened his valise to-day, instead of \$25,000 said to be in it, they found pieces of candle wrapped up to appear like one hundred \$5 gold pieces in each package, and pieces of railroad iron wrapped up to look like gold bricks, but no money. Both Frenchman and Italian exhibited large amounts of gold and greenbacks before their disappearance, and the police have information from St. Louis that they are members of a gang of well known burglars, and it is thought they are connected with heavy robberies in Texas during the past week. The chief of police has postal cards printed describing them, and mailed to various cities to-night to secure their arrest.

August Klopp shot and killed Antoine Gaschleisch, a wealthy German at Dallas. The latter went to the house of the former to get his daughter, who had been obliged to leave

home on account of the brutal treatment, and becoming very abusive and demonstrative, kicking in Klopp's doors, the latter shot him with a Winchester rifle. Gaschleisch's wife committed suicide a few months ago, on account of the treatment of her husband. Klopp surrendered to the authorities and has the public in his favor.

NEW YORK, 1.—The World's London special says: The Land League has taken a bold step in regard to the passage of the coercion bill. The executive committee of the association at Dublin to-day ordered that none of the league should leave Ireland, and in case the leaders of the league should be arrested after the passage of the bill, and an attempt thus made to break up the central staff, the sister of Mr. Parnell, now in Ireland, should take charge of the business, assisted by the other ladies who recently established the branch land league in that city.

Mr. Eagan, the secretary of the Land League, has returned to Dublin from Paris, where he is said to have invested a considerable amount of the league's funds.

Miss Anna Parnell presided at a private meeting of the ladies of Ireland in the league offices to-day, at which a central land league of the ladies of Ireland was formed. The officers were appointed, and it was resolved to issue an address to the women of Ireland, and another to the women of America and other countries, inviting co-operation in the objects of the association, which are "To alleviate the distress and suffering which must ensue from the vindictiveness and rapacity of landlords, from the effect of the coercion acts, and from the wholesale evictions during the present year." Miss Parnell delivered an eloquent address, speaking for a quarter of an hour. The executive of the regular league has determined that no member shall leave Ireland on account of the coercion bill.

Chinese New Year is being celebrated by the Celestials here with much enthusiasm.

A class of 30 Chinamen in the Baptist Sunday School in 51st Street yesterday gave a feast to their American friends, 200 in number.

The Herald says: The story would be incredible but for its being officially authenticated, that in this city there is a class of men calling themselves undertakers who make a business of obtaining certain sums of money from impoverished and bereaved parents to bury their infant offspring. The funeral over, they deposit the nude body of the babe in an old cast-off box in the yard of the commissioners of charities and arrange for its transfer in the dead wagon to the morgue. What becomes of the tiny remains after that is a matter of speculation, but the Herald strongly intimates they will go to the dissecting table.

WASHINGTON, 1.—The latest Cabinet from Blaine sources: Blaine for premier; Allison for the treasury; no appointment for the interior yet agreed; as to post office Foster can have it, but Garfield is said to have persuaded him to remain in Ohio politics, and succeed Senator Pendleton, then Postmaster James of New York, takes it; Don Cameron for the Secretary of War, Levi P. Morton for the navy. For attorney general Judge Phillip H. Morgan, of Louisiana, new minister to Mexico, although General Phillips of the Department of Justice and Judge Hunt of the Court of Claims are mentioned.

The debt statement issued to-day shows the decrease in the public debt to be \$738,216,771. Cash in the Treasury, \$221,874,535.08. Gold certificates, \$654,148,000; silver certificates, \$46,800,220.00. Certificates of deposit: outstanding, 8,630,000.00; refunding certificates, \$867,250.00. Legal tenders: outstanding, \$346,681,016.00. Fractional currency: outstanding, \$1,552,043,312, less the amount estimated as lost or destroyed by the act of June 21, 1879, \$337,573,400, \$714,449,912.

The Senate finance committee to-day agreed to amend the House funding bill so as to make the bonds 5.20 and fix the rate of interest both for bonds and treasury certificates at 3 1/2 per cent. The fourth, fifth and sixth sections are not considered yet.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

Thomas Carlyle is seriously ill.

Greece has ordered 60 torpedoes.

Gen Colley's attacking party numbered 500 men.

A Fenian proclamation has been posted in North Shields.