

BY TELEGRAPH.

AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 13.

General Sherman has submitted his annual report to Secretary McCrary. In it he refers to the reports of the different commanders of military departments, and invites particular attention to that of General Sheridan. His command, says Gen. Sherman, embraces eight of the ten regiments of cavalry, and eighteen of the twenty-five regiments of infantry, which compose the entire army, and although he states this force to be entirely inadequate to perform the duties required, yet it is impossible further to reinforce him without stripping the seaboard or abandoning other territories, subject to the same dangers which he so graphically describes in his own. His territorial command is 1,500 miles broad. This vast region, has, in the past ten years, undergone a radical change. From being the pasture fields of millions of buffalo, elk, etc., affording abundant food for the Indians, it has passed to a farming country traversed by many railroads. The game is nearly all gone, and the Indian has been forced on small reservations. Nearly all the Indian treaties were made on this theory, that this change would occur more slowly, and that the government would have to furnish partial food for the Indians and that they would procure half or a quarter of the necessary meat by hunting again. It was a favorite theory that the Indian would see for himself a reason why he should cultivate ground like white men, but his progress in this respect is scarcely perceptible, save in remnants of tribes like the Tantees, Pawnees, Cherokees, etc., while Sioux, Cheyennes, Arapahoes, Kiowas, etc., seem to prefer death to the common toil of the farmer.

Beyond question it was hunger which drove Bannacks and Cheyennes to war this summer and similar escapades will occur each year, unless these Indians be kept quiet with more food. It seems idle to expect that the enterprising white race will cease till every acre of this continent is susceptible of cultivation. It is not to be expected that these pasture fields can be used by the two races without everlasting conflict. The reservations already set apart for Indians are large enough and should suffice them to raise all the meat and grain necessary for their subsistence but, meantime, they must have food, else they will steal and fight.

To convert these Indians into a pastoral race is the first step in the upward progress of civilization, that of culture must be the next stage, though slow of realization. But in this direction is the sole hope of rescuing any part of "nomad" Indians from utter annihilation. This end cannot be reached by means of the present peace agents, because persecution is wasted on an Indian. There must not only be show of force, but actual force and subjection used. Force will be necessary to compel the "nomad" to cultivate his own ground. There is a wide distinction among tribes, and each tribe must be dealt with according to its nature. Large discretion to supply food must be lodged with the President or some one else. Starvation will each year cause wars such as occurred this season with the Shoshones and southern Cheyennes. The army cannot foresee or prevent these wars; all it can do after the Indians break out, plunder or steal and kill harmless families, is to pursue and capture them in detail, after infinite toil, then conduct them back to their reservations and turn them loose to return to the same game *ad libitum*. Congress can alone provide a remedy, and if prevention be wiser than cure, money and discretion must be lodged somewhere in time to prevent starvation.

The reports of Gens. McDowell, Howard and Wilcox describe the condition of affairs in the States and Territories bordering on the Pacific ocean. These Indians are collected by tribes and families on small reservations, well apart, so that Indian wars on a large scale, requiring concert of action, are not probable, yet the Nez Perces war of 1877 and the Shoshone war of this summer show, however, that these small bands of Indians did a large amount of damage and caused great consternation. The Pacific coast Indians depend much on fish for subsistence, and the establishment of fisheries on the Lower Columbia is fast

cutting off the supply. Unless suitable regulations are adopted, salmon will become extinct and the Indians be driven to stealing and consequent war with settlers.

Reference is made to the danger of hostilities between Indians and settlers in Oregon and Washington Territory, and also in Arizona, owing to trespass by whites. The army is powerless to act in either case, having no control or right to interfere except after hostilities are actually begun. The General repeats that the Indian problem is not a single problem, but many; as many, almost, as there are tribes. Measures which would be wise in one instance would be folly in another, and whatever department of government is charged with it, must be armed not only with force, but large discretion and authority to furnish food in emergencies. One regiment will probably have to go to the frontier in the spring from the division of the Atlantic. It would be well if there could be held at points like Atlanta, Leavenworth, St. Paul and Omaha, in rotation, a full regiment of infantry or cavalry, for instruction, but hitherto this has been impracticable. General Sherman doubts the wisdom of selecting and preparing in advance, as recommended by General Hancock, post and camps in the south against yellow fever.

The artillery school at Fortress Monroe is kept to a high standard and is fast becoming a "post graduate" for officers. The general concurs in the recommendation of General Scofield, that September appointments of West Point be discontinued, and further suggests that new cadets be examined by the academic board early in June, and that no cadets be examined or admitted after the 1st of July. He questions, however, the wisdom of the recommendation that the standard for the admission of cadets be raised.

He thinks an erroneous impression is common that the academy will graduate more officers than are needed for the army, but experience has shown that vacancies annually occur in the army to at least the number of 60, which is more than the average graduating class. The report shows that there are 7,829 enlisted men in the ten regiments of cavalry in the army, 2,630 men in the five regiments of artillery, and 11,205 in the 25 regiments of infantry, making a total of 21,664. Besides these there are in the engineer battalion 199 permanent and recruiting parties, music boys and recruits in depots, 1,121, enlisted men detached on general service, 372, ordnance departments, 344, West Point detachments, 190, prison guard, 71, hospital stewards, 188, ordnance sergeants, 114, commissary sergeants, 148 and Indian scouts, 340. Total of 3,097. Making the whole number of enlisted men in the army, 24,761.

The report concludes: I beg to state that from personal inspections, and from official reports, I am sure the army is well and economically supplied. Its discipline and instruction are as good as could be expected from its scattered condition and from the vast amount of labor necessarily imposed on it, that it has met cheerfully every call of duty and hardship, it has accomplished an amount of work which, as General Sheridan has well said, no other nation in the world would have attempted with less than 60,000 or 70,000 men.

Secretary Schurz, to-day, transmitted to the Attorney General the papers received by him from the auditor of railroad accounts alleging neglect on the part of the Central Pacific railroad company, to furnish the reports demanded by the auditor under the recent act of congress and requesting that, in accordance with the requirements of this law, suits be instituted to recover the forfeitures prescribed for such cases of neglect or refusal. There are distinct specifications on which the suit is recommended, the penalty in each being the forfeiture of a sum not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$50,000.

CAMP ROBINSON, Neb., 13.—Several Sioux scouts, conspicuous among them Long Wolf, Sword and Yankton Charley, left here at noon for the Sand Hills, 70 miles southeast of this camp, the probable rendezvous of Little Wolf's murderous band. These experienced scouts will be followed by 100 cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Eiting, who will take up the trail should the Sioux discover it.

BOSTON, 13.—The wool market is unchanged. Manufacturers continue to purchase to a fair extent,

and dealers are free sellers at current rates. Medium wools of all kinds are firm, but the demand for fine wools falls short of expectations. Sales of Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces at 35 @ 38, including XXX and above, and No. 1. Michigan and Wisconsin fleeces are quiet at 32 @ 34, and combing and delaine fleeces at 35 @ 42. The latter is now the outside price for the best medium combing wools. Fine delaines are quiet and cannot be sold at over 36 @ 38; super and X pulled wools in fair demand with sales at 30 @ 40. California is in fair demand at 12 @ 18 for fall and 18 @ 22 for spring.

CHICAGO, 13.—At the commercial convention, this morning, the following platform was adopted:

Resolved, That the combined prosperity of the agricultural, manufacturing, mining and commercial interests of the country cannot be secured without such development of commerce with other countries as will offer a ready and growing market for our surplus products and to insure this, it is the duty of Congress to promote, and by all wise and constitutional measures, aid in the opening and improvement of such lines of transportation by land and water as one of general and national importance.

Resolved, That high rates upon freight and passenger traffic charged by the Union Pacific railroad, make this only highway from the Atlantic to the Pacific a monopoly as burdensome as it is exclusive, and we call upon Congress to take measures at its coming session to compel these corporations, which owe their existence to the liberality of the nation, to fulfil their corporate obligations.

Resolved, That the interests of the government and people alike, demand the early completion of competing lines of railroad to the Pacific, and we, therefore, earnestly desire Congress to aid in the construction of the Texas Pacific railroad by such means as will secure the government against pecuniary loss, and extend the time for the completion of the Northern Pacific railroad.

Resolved, That the direct trade with countries lying south of us, which is desired by them, and will be most profitable to us, cannot be entered upon and conducted successfully without mail facilities, which is the province of government to furnish, and we, therefore, recommend an immediate provision by Congress for ocean mail service between the chief ports of the United States and all important commercial points on the coast of South America, in American built and owned ships.

The remaining resolutions, call for protection to mariners against the dangers at Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, and provide for a committee of one from each state to present the resolutions to the president and Congress.

SAN FRANCISCO, 13.—Arrived, the steamer *City of Tokio* from Hong Kong via Yokohama.

From China mail condensed: The foreign residents of Hong Kong held a public meeting, October 7th, to consider the state of insecurity of life and property in the colony; Chinese residents attempted to pack the meeting, but failed to accomplish anything. The following resolution was adopted:

"That during the past 18 months life and property in the colony has been seriously jeopardized and a feeling of insecurity is the result, which recent events have engendered, mainly caused by a policy of undue leniency toward the criminal classes." Other resolutions, in a general way, favored a return to flogging and other severe punishments of criminals practised under former administrations, and asking the appointment of a commission by the home government to inquire into the present administration of the government of the colony, especially regarding the application of criminal laws. The chairman was instructed to forward the resolutions to the secretary of state for the colonies.

A gale on the coast occasioned many minor disasters to shipping.

From the *Japan Gazette* it is learned that the Mikado left Kobe on October 15th, and was expected in Tokio November 7th.

A court martial in a recent military meeting at the capitol sat over an extended period, and all the possible means were tried to induce the prisoners to make a full confession of their motives, accomplices and instigators; torture, it is alleged, having been employed for the

purpose, but all in vain. On the 15th instant, the court met to pronounce judgment. Fifty-three private soldiers of infantry and artillery battalions were condemned to death; one hundred and fifteen others to ten years', forty-eight to three years', seven to two years' and eighteen to one year's imprisonment in various parts of the country; of the lesser offenders, twenty-three were sentenced to confinement and one to be flogged. Three men only were acquitted. The sentences were carried out at once, and the condemned men were shot to death in batches of fifteen on the morning following, the scene lasting four hours.

Great changes in the cabinet are expected on the return of the Mikado to Tokio.

Asiatic cholera is said to be prevalent in Nagasaki. The government is adopting active measures to prevent the spread of the contagion. The disease has also made its appearance at Yokohama.

J. A. Bingham, envoy of the United States, departs by the *City of Tokio*. Mr. Stevens, secretary of legation, will act in his absence.

The American ship *Lookout* was wrecked September 12th, near Katsushima and three men drowned.

The steamer *Nippo Maru* went ashore September 15th, in Spex Straits; total loss, but all hands saved.

ZANESVILLE, O., 14.—At four o'clock this morning, a policeman on the bridge had his suspicions aroused at the movements of a party in a wagon, and upon pursuing them 14 miles, they left the wagon and with it four bodies of prominent citizens, lately deceased, and buried in the Woodlawn Cemetery.

WASHINGTON, 14.—Indications already point to an effort to consolidate the 20 or more representatives elect to the next congress, chosen as independents or greenbackers, into a third party organization, to co-operate for the exercise of the balance of power between the regular democrats and the republicans. The chances, however, are that most of the greenbackers will usually act with the democrats on the ground of a substantial accord in financial views and purposes. It is not improbable, however, that enough of these independents may hold a separate caucus to dictate the selection of a speaker and other officers of the House. Prominent greenback leaders urge that their only hope of success lies in the new political organization, especially as the recent elections show that the east repudiates them, and their available allegiance must be with the west.

Commodore Schufeldt in his report to the secretary of the navy, says there were 669 desertions during this year, while the year before there were 818. This year, 1,223 boys were enlisted in the navy.

Supreme court No 180, assigned George Reynolds, plaintiff, in error, against the United States, in error to supreme court, Territory of Utah. This was an indictment in the district court for the Territory of Utah, under sec. 5.352 of the Revised Statutes of the United States vs. the prisoner, Geo. Reynolds, for contracting a polygamous marriage. Having been convicted in the third judicial district court, he appealed to the supreme court of the Territory, and from that court, in which the judgment of the court below was affirmed, sued out a writ of error to the Supreme Court of the United States. The argument was begun. The errors assigned in the case are very numerous, but only one of them involves a question of general public interest, namely: whether the United States congress has a constitutional right to prohibit polygamous marriages in the territories. It was contended by the counsel for the prisoner that polygamy is enjoined as a religious duty and held as an article of faith by the sect to which the latter belongs, and that congress is forbidden by the first amendment to the constitution, to make any law respecting an establishment of religion or to prohibit the free exercise thereof.

Attorney General Devens, of the counsel for the United States, urged, in reply, that an interpretation of the constitution which would restrain congress from attaching a penalty to the crime of polygamy on account of its being an article of religious faith, would also restrain it from attaching a penalty to any other crime which might be sanctioned by religion; that under this rigid interpretation of the constitution a sect of East Indian thugs,

who should settle in the territories, might commit murder with impunity on the ground that it was sanctioned and enjoined by their system of religion. He closed with an eloquent and impressive reference to the well known Mountain Meadow massacre, by Mormon "avenging angels," as an illustration of the fanatical extremes to which men, unrestrained by law, might be carried under a mistaken conviction of religious duty.

The argument will be continued to-morrow.

Lord Salisbury's letter to Secretary Evarts' dispatch regarding the fishery question, says the British government will be happy to furnish those proofs gathered by Capt. Sullivan, which Secretary Evarts complains have not been sent to the United States government; that the British government supposed those proofs conclusive in the absence of any evidence like that which the secretary transmitted in his dispatch. He (Salisbury) therefore sent Captain Sullivan's report. He had not intended in his (Salisbury's) letter of the 23d to lay down the law that it is competent for British authority to pass laws in suppression of the treaty binding American fishermen within the three-mile limit. The secretary, however, would hardly wish to be understood as asserting that England might not pass any kind of law binding Americans who fish in British waters. If, however, it be admitted that the Newfoundland legislators have the right of binding Americans who fish within their waters by any laws which do not contravene existing treaties, it must be further conceded that the duty of determining the existence of any such contravention must be undertaken by the government, and cannot be remitted to the discretion of each individual fisherman, for such a discretion, if exercised on one side, can hardly be refused on the other. If any American fisherman can violently break a law which he believes to be contrary to the treaty, a Newfoundland fisherman may violently maintain it, if he believes it to be in accordance with the treaty. As the points in issue are frequently subtle and require considerable legal knowledge, nothing but confusion and disorder could result from such a mode of deciding the interpretation of the treaty. Her majesty's government prefer the view that the law enacted by the legislature of a country, whatever it may be, ought to be obeyed by natives and foreigners alike, who are sojourning within the territorial limits of its jurisdiction, but that if a law has been inadvertently passed which is in any degree or respect at variance with the rights conferred on foreign powers by the treaty, the correction of mistakes, as committed, at the earliest period after its existence shall have been ascertained and recognized, is a matter of international obligation. It is not explicitly stated in Mr. Evarts' dispatch that he considers any recent acts of the colonial legislature to be inconsistent with the rights acquired by the United States under the treaty of Washington, but if that is the case, Her Majesty's government will, in a friendly spirit, consider any representations he may think it right to make upon the subject, with the hope of coming to a satisfactory understanding. The dispatch is most courteous and pleasant throughout.

CHICAGO, 14.—From two to six deaths from yellow fever occur daily in the principal southern cities, but the cases are generally old ones, and the danger to returned refugees is very slight, although some boards of health still advise against return.

GREEN BAY, Wis., 14.—A fire, to-day, destroyed the warehouse of Goodrich & Day, about 3,000 barrels of kerosine oil and several piles of coal belonging to F. Huribut; also a quantity of lumber owned by Schwarz & Co. The loss is estimated at \$27,000.

BRADFORD, Pa., 14.—A fire broke out this evening in one of the numerous small buildings at the foot of Main street, near the Theatre Comique, and is rapidly spreading. The Riddell House is now burning, and Nelson's Opera House will go soon. The fire department from Olean is on the way here.

MILWAUKEE, 14.—George Zergler's candy factory burned to-night, with other establishments in the same buildings. Loss \$40,000. Insured.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., 14.—The American Woman Suffrage Convention meetings, to-day, have been