

By Telegraph.

AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 14.—Luttrell's bill about grazing lands authorizes any citizen to homestead or pre-empt 640 acres, at 50 cents per acre, the Surveyor General to designate what lands are fit only for grazing purposes, and the applicants to make oath that they design the lands for their personal use and not for sale or speculative purposes. His harbor improvement bills ask for two hundred thousand each for Crescent City and Humboldt Bay.

Wigginton's bills appropriate \$150,000 for Wilmington, \$10,000 for San Diego, and \$150,000 for San Luis Obispo harbor.

Piper's bill asks \$15,000 for a steam fog signal on the South Farallones. Piper's bill for the new San Francisco Post-office appropriates \$300,000 on condition that the city convey a valid title to Union Square, or some other equally eligible site, and that the state shall cede jurisdiction and right of taxation.

Page's mining land bill provides that no placer mineral land shall be excluded from homestead and pre-emption, unless bona fide mining claims exist thereon, or it is shown to be necessary for an outlet or other mining casement, and the price of both agriculture and placer lands, out of railway grants, shall be \$1.25 per acre; the bill also provides for joint entries, the right to obtain a patent for the smallest legal subdivision containing mining claims, authority to take the proofs before officers, and to administer oaths by other than land officers. His timber land bill is a copy of last year's, which was also introduced this week by Senator Kelly.

Lane's bill, to pay the Modoc war claims, appropriates \$131,000 for Oregon and \$4,600 for citizens of California. All will be referred to the appropriate committees when formed.

Page also reintroduced a bill to forfeit the Atlantic and Pacific Railway grant.

The bill introduced in the Senate by Hitchcock, of Neb., directs the Secretary of War, to survey and report the most feasible route for a railway from Austin, Texas, via Ft. Leton, on the Rio Grande, to the harbor of Topolovampon, on the Gulf of Cala., authorizing an application to the Mexican government for a survey in that country.

In the Senate Sargent introduced a bill to repeal the last clause of the sundry civil appropriation bill for the year ending June 30, 1874; referred to the judiciary committee. The clause it proposes to repeal relates to customs, commerce and navigation in Alaska.

The present distinctive point at issue between the United States and Spain is stated to be, in non-official but unusually well informed circles, that the United States asks that in future all Americans in Cuba, accused of a violation of the law, shall be tried by the civil courts, and not by the military tribunals, with all the rights in such cases as are secured by the 7th article of the treaty of 1795; and all sentences of Americans tried by the military heretofore shall be annulled. Spain, in some degree, concedes the claim to the first, agreeing that in future Americans accused of violation of the law shall be tried by the ordinary tribunals, with the right to be heard by counsel, to call witnesses and to employ all other necessary safeguards to the accused, but with the reservation that all such trials shall be according to the law of 1821, which provides for more expeditious proceedings than those of the civil courts for common crimes in time of peace, and also offers to revise all sentences passed by court martial on American citizens where it shall be satisfactorily shown that such sentences were in violation of established law. This reply is unsatisfactory to the United States, which takes the ground that American citizens accused of crime cannot be tried by a court martial, but are entitled to a trial before the civil tribunals only, as secured by treaty stipulation, without such reservation as proposed by Spain.

The cabinet session, to-day, was short. Several appointments were under consideration. Several members have decided that, in company with the President, they will visit Philadelphia on the 17th inst.; it is probable that the Secretary of the Navy, the Postmaster General and the Attorney General will represent the cabinet on the occasion.

The Secretary of the Interior holds in trust for certain Indians, stocks and bonds, the par value of which is about five million dollars. He says it seems to him that the U. S. Treasurer should be the custodian of this property, and he sends to Congress a draft of a bill providing for such custody.

It is said to be the intention of Speaker Kerr to announce the standing committees on Tuesday, the 21st, and that on the next day the two houses will take the usual holiday recess.

BRIDGEPORT, Ct., 14.—The cabinet shops of the Wheeler and Wilson Sewing Machine Company were burned to-night; the fire-department was powerless on account of the insufficient supply of water. Loss \$500,000, insurance \$300,000.

BOSTON, 14.—Mayor Cobb was re-elected by about 2,500 plurality.

NEW YORK, 14.—Adolphe Levinger, attorney for the lately failed German Uptown savings bank, has been arrested, charged with failing to account for collections amounting to \$38,000.

SAN FRANCISCO, 14.—Timothy Harrington, reported as a member of the New York police, twenty-first precinct, visiting this coast for his health, dropped dead on the street this evening.

The Japanese steam corvette *Tsubuka Kau*, a training ship for naval cadets, arrived to-day from Singaw; the officers and crew are Japanese, except three English instructors of the cadets.

NEW YORK, 15.—Wm. P. Mortimer, one of the men charged with robbing the city auditor's office at Toledo, was arrested in Brooklyn yesterday.

The fire which broke out in the Wheeler and Wilson S. M. Co's cabinet shops, at Bridgeport, about 6 o'clock last evening, was confined to the building in which it originated. At half-past eight the fire began to diminish, and at nine the walls, fronting on Pembroke Street, fell, knocking down at least a dozen persons, two of whom were killed, and half a dozen seriously injured, some of whom cannot survive. At 11 o'clock the buildings were a heap of ruins. The loss of the Wheeler and Wilson Co., on buildings and stock, is estimated at \$500,000, on which there is insurance of \$316,000. The loss of the Sewing Machine Cabinet Co. will not probably be less than \$100,000. The buildings burned are those formerly occupied by the Wheeler & Wilson Company. The new buildings of this company, erected about seven years ago, were not burned. About two hundred skilled mechanics are thrown out of employment by the conflagration, which is the most serious that has occurred in Bridgeport for years.

President Grant has accepted an invitation to dine with the New England Society in this city, on "Forefathers' Day."

A dispatch from London says that the French steamship *L'Amirique*, before reported with her shaft broken, was spoken on the 1st inst. in lat. 50, long. 18.

The body of a woman, fearfully cut and stabbed, was found in a field yesterday, on the outskirts of Brooklyn; a cigar maker's knife was picked up near the body. There is no clue to the murderer.

BOSTON, 15.—A special from Concord says that a deficiency of at least \$30,000 has been discovered in the college accounts of the late treasurer of Dartmouth College, and president of the Dartmouth Savings Bank, Daniel Blaisdel, who died last August; the family of the deceased have placed all their property at the disposal of the College to make good the loss.

GALVESTON, 15.—Information from Brownsville states that three colored soldiers were tried there yesterday, charged with the murder of a Mexican at the Solicitor Rancho, in January last; the prosecution failed to produce proof, and the jury returned a verdict of not guilty without leaving the box.

Lt. French, of the U. S. army, was tried on a charge of burglary, with a similar result.

General Hatch is in Brownsville, but his trial will not be had until the next term. It is stated that public opinion has changed, and the military are not blamed in the matter.

WASHINGTON, 15.—The house has adopted, 218 to 33, the resolution offered by Holman, pledging the House against all railroad and other subsidies, in money, lands or endowments. It is now voting on, and will adopt by a still larger majority, a resolution against the President's third term. The vote

on the third term resolution was 232 to 18.

The House has agreed to adjourn over on next Monday till Tuesday, January 4th.

The President has nominated A. White, of Ala., for Chief Justice of Utah, and D. P. Thompson, of Oregon, Governor of Idaho.

RICHMOND, 15.—John W. Johnston was nominated U. S. Senator on the 45th ballot.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., 15.—The upper Hudson is closed again; no more boats can get north this season.

WASHINGTON, 15.—Sargent's bill for the San Francisco post office, is a duplicate of Pyper's, introduced in the House yesterday; they prepared it in consultation.

Luttrell, to-day, introduced bills, appropriating \$50,000 for the improvement of Sacramento river, and \$25,000 for the improvement of Feather river.

The resignation of Surveyor General Stratton has been placed in Senator Sargent's hands, to take effect January 11th. Sargent will recommend as his successor H. G. Rollins, who has so satisfactorily served as register of the San Francisco land office during the past six years.

A telegram was received at the Department of Justice to-day, from U. S. Attorney Dyer at St. Louis, announcing that no more important trials in the whiskey cases would occur before January.

The President has recognized Alfred Channing Bagshaw as Vice Consul of her Britannic Majesty, at St. Louis.

The published report that the U. S. have submitted proposals to Great Britain, France and Germany, looking to an intervention in the Cuban question, is contradicted; it may positively be asserted that, even if this government should, in future, be inclined to such an intervention, it would do so without asking or desiring the co-operation of foreign powers.

The President has received the following—

"Chicago, Dec. 12.

"To the President, Washington.
"Sir—Since my request for a court of inquiry as the only apparent means open to me at the time of refuting the charges made against me at St. Louis, a bill of indictment has been found in the U. S. court and I shall consequently be afforded the means of vindication before that tribunal. I, therefore, respectfully suggest that the order convening a court of inquiry be revoked, as I trust that my case may be reached at an early day in the U. S. court.

"Very respectfully,

"Your obedient servant,

"O. E. BABCOCK,

"Col. of Engineers, U. S. A."

In accordance with the above, the following order has been issued—

"War Department, Adj't-Gen'l's Office, Washington 15.

"Special order No. 255, for a court of inquiry, appointed in a special order from this office, to assemble at Chicago, Ill., is hereby dissolved. The members and Judge Advocate will return to their stations.

"By order President U. S.

"E. D. TOWNSEND, Adj't-Gen'l." Senator Morton has denied, as utterly false, the published statement that he was concerned with the whiskey ring in connection with the Indiana campaign fund of 1872.

TROY, N. Y., 15.—The Rev. Jno. Henry Hobart Brown, S. T. D., of Cohoes, was consecrated Bishop of Fond Du Lac, Wis., in St. John's Church, this morning, with imposing ceremonies, Bishop Potter presiding. The sermon was preached by Bishop Wells, of Wisconsin.

BOSTON, 15.—A dispatch received here states that the ship *Helen Norris*, of Boston, Captain Bursley, from Shields, for San Francisco, with coal, has been burned at sea; the Captain and twelve men landed at Valparaiso, November 28th.

SAN FRANCISCO, 15.—A dispatch from San Diego says that a letter has been received by a merchant in that city, from S. E. Gaskill, whose store at Campo was recently plundered by Mexican bandits, stating that the robbers assert their intention of attacking the place again with sufficient force to overcome all opposition. The letter urges a movement for their defence by citizens, little being hoped from the military authorities.

A dispatch from San Diego says, on reliable information, that the Mexican bandits who recently made an attack on Campo, are a portion of a band numbering up-

wards of sixty, composed of fugitives from justice of both Lower and Upper California, who intend to carry on a regular system of brigandage on the border.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., 16.—This a. m. a fire broke out in Hotchkiss & Barber's planing mill, which spread to the lumber yard of Hebard & Forsman, and White, Lentz & White; total loss about \$60,000, insurance \$30,000.

NEW YORK, 16.—According to a Bremen dispatch, Thomas, a passenger on the *Mosel* and the owner of the cask of dynamite which caused the terrible disaster at Bremen, has confessed his guilt, saying that he had accomplices at New York. The motive for this diabolical scheme appears to have been to procure exaggerated and fictitious insurance, and to share with others. Thomas is quite conscious, and answers all questions, but the bullets have not yet been extracted from his head.

From what is known, the barrel for this shameful work was made strongly by a Bremen cooper, and was partitioned, one part containing dynamite and the other the apparatus for exploding it. He intended to place his hellish machine on the *Deutschland*, but was not ready. The *Weiser Zeitung* adds—

"In sober words we communicate it, and with certainty, that the number of victims killed and wounded amounts to 140. William K. Thomas is the full name, and since his attempt at suicide, he has made a full confession. He was born in New York, and married a New Orleans lady, and has four children, the youngest a baby. He lived in Virginia during the war, and was engaged in the business of blockade running, whereby he became rich. Since 1866 he has resided here and at Leipzig, and last at Strehlen, near Dresden. He appears to have lost his money and to have become embarrassed. He was twice in America during the past summer; the last time he went without the knowledge of his family, and when he returned he wrote his banker here that he had made arrangements enabling him to pay his debts in December. He was highly esteemed by people in Germany. His house has been searched, but nothing was found connected with the disaster. Thomas has attempted suicide again by tearing off the dressings from his wounds."

Nathan Rubenstein has been arrested on a charge of being the murderer of Sarah Alexander, the young Jewess whose body was found in a field on the outskirts of Brooklyn, on Tuesday afternoon.

WASHINGTON, 16.—The Massachusetts delegation in Congress met this a. m., and appointed a committee to make arrangements for the formal announcement of the death of the Vice President. Eulogies will be delivered by both Senators and Representatives, Hoar and Warren, and also by others not yet designated.

DETROIT, 17.—Captain J. Wham, marine reporter, states the number of disasters on the lakes during the present season at 1,056, a decrease from last year of 131. Of this number 526 occurred on Lake Michigan, 152 on Lake Huron, 189 on Lake Erie, 62 on Lake Ontario, 26 on Lake Superior, and 40 on the rivers. Eighty-five vessels of all descriptions, with an aggregate carrying capacity of 27,177 tons, valued at \$1,049,000 have passed out of existence, and twenty-five new vessels, with an aggregate capacity of 14,737 tons, valued at \$1,169,500, have been commissioned during the year. The total amount of property lost, including hulls and cargoes, is \$3,791,300, which exceeds that of last year by \$104,700.

BOSTON, 16.—The jury in the case of Thomas W. Piper, for the murder of Mabel Young, after being out from noon yesterday, came into court this morning and reported that they were unable to agree, and they were discharged; it is said that they stood nine for conviction and three for acquittal.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., 16.—In the U. S. circuit court, Judge Drummond decided, on a demurrer to the bill of the Thames Loan and Trust Co., against Maloney, that it was competent for a foreign corporation to loan money upon a mortgage of real estate in Indiana; the laws of the state not having expressly prohibited such corporation from taking real security. The demurrer was overruled and the defendant required to answer.

FOREIGN.

BREMEN, 14.—The man Thomas,

who is supposed to have owned the case of dynamite which exploded at Bremen, is an American; he has been residing some months at Strahlen, Saxony.

DRESDEN, 14.—The police made a domiciliary visit to the abode of Thomas, in Strahlen, but failed to discover anything throwing light on the terrible crime in which the man is implicated; his wife has gone to Bremen.

BERLIN, 14.—In the Reichstag the clauses of the penal code amendment bill, directed against offences similar to Von Arnim's, have passed the second hearing.

SAN SEBASTIAN, 14.—Reinforcements of 3,000 men have arrived here.

CONSTANTINOPLE, 14.—The Austrian ambassador asked the Grand Vizier, on Saturday, to suspend hostilities and to open negotiations with the insurgents. Some of the ministers urge the Sultan to reject the programme of reform emanating from the northern powers, and in justification to refer them to the plan of reform which the Porte itself intends to promulgate to-morrow.

LONDON, 14.—The adjourned inquest at Harwich, on the bodies from the wreck of the *Deutschland*, was brought to a close to-day. Captain Brickenstein repeated the evidence he gave before, that he was thirty-five miles out of his course when the steamer struck. Witnesses were called to prove that the tug *Liverpool* did all that was possible to save life. The jury, after deliberating three hours, rendered a verdict that the victims came to their death by exposure or drowning; that the primary cause of the wreck was that the Captain, in consequence of the state of the weather, lost his reckoning, but that no criminal act is attributed to him. The jury add, "It is to be regretted that the vessel had not the best known appliances for ascertaining the distance traversed; that her boat-lowering apparatus was not of the best, and that an experienced pilot was not in charge." They concluded by declaring that great credit was due to the Captain and crew of the tug *Liverpool*.

PARIS, 14.—In the Assembly, M. Fourcand, deputy for the Gironde and member of the Left was the only person elected senator; all the other candidates failed to obtain the requisite majority. It is believed that several Legitimists and Bonapartists did not vote to-day, fearing the success of the extreme republicans.

The French Geographical Society has elected General Andrew A. Humphreys, chief of the engineer corps of the United States army, a corresponding member.

LONDON, 15.—The bullion withdrawn from the Bank of England, on balance, to-day, was £65,000.

COLOGNE, 15.—The Archbishop of Cologne left this city yesterday, and is not expected to return; it is understood that he delegated his powers to subordinate ecclesiastics.

BREMEN, 15.—Thomassen, not Thomas, is the name of the man owning the case of dynamite which exploded at Bremen, and he has confessed that he constructed the chest which exploded, and arranged clockwork to cause an explosion at a certain time. He was occupied a fortnight in filling the chest, and worked in a coach house in one of the most frequented parts of Bremen. The police have examined the house, and found some of the packing material, but no explosives were found.

LONDON, 15.—Sir Wm. Jarvis, governor of the Straits settlements, telegraphs from Penang on the 14th, that on the 7th eighty men of the 70th regiment and 126 auxiliaries, consisting of regular troops and police, attacked from four to eight hundred Malays, who were fortified behind a stockade within five miles of the Perak residency; after a sharp fight the attacking party charged the Malays, and routed them. From sixty to eighty of the enemy were killed and wounded, while only two of the British and six of the auxiliaries were killed and twenty-five wounded. The troops are now meeting with no resistance, and reinforcements are not required at present.

PARIS, 15.—It is currently reported that M. Leon Say, minister of finance, has resigned.

The following were elected senators to-day—Viscount De Lorge, deputy in the Assembly for the Cotes Du Nord, and the Count De Donhet, deputy for Puy de Dome, both legitimists; Herve De Saisy, deputy for the Cotes Du Nord, a