

## BY TELEGRAPH.

## FORTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

## SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 4.—Ferry, Davis and Randolph were appointed a committee to inquire about the omission of the Hot Springs clause from the enrolled sundry civil appropriation bill, last season.

Saulsbury introduced a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury, in redeeming United States legal tender notes, as required by the special resumption act, to pay 75 per cent. in gold coin and 25 per cent. in standard silver dollars.

Harris' resolution regarding the preventing of epidemics was agreed to, with the amendment that the committee may sit with a similar committee of the House.

The motion of Matthews to take up the Texas Pacific Railroad bill was rejected, 19 yeas, 22 nays, on the ground that it would lead to a long discussion.

Edmunds gave notice that on Monday next he would call up the bill relating to presidential elections and the counting of votes.

Eustis introduced a bill appropriating \$5,000,000 for improving levees in the southern states. Laid on the table.

Executive session followed, and when the doors were reopened the Senate adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 5.—The Vice-President announced as a special committee on yellow fever investigation, Harris, Matthews, Lamar, Baddock, Conover, Garland and Eustis.

Morrill submitted a resolution calling upon the secretary of the treasury for information as to the amount of deposit in the treasury to the credit of the Freedmen's Saving and Trust Company; whether interest should be allowed thereon, the expenses of the commission to settle the affairs of that company, and what legislation is needed to close up the affairs of the company. He said he understood the commissioners were willing to retire but could not do so under the law. In his opinion the original managers of the institution could have been criminally prosecuted. The resolution was agreed to.

## HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 4.—Foot asked leave to offer the following resolution:

*Resolved*, that the legal tender quality of the silver dollar, 412½ grains of standard silver, shall be maintained and enforced and that any discrimination against the said silver dollar by any national bank, in refusing to receive them and treat them as legal dollars, shall be deemed a defiance of the law of the United States; and the committee on banking and currency is hereby instructed to mature and bring in a bill for the withdrawal from circulation of the notes of all such banks so offending.

Several objections were made and the proposition was not received.

Schleicher offered a resolution calling on the President for a copy of the dispatch of Oct. 9th, 1878, from the Secretary of State to the United States minister in Mexico, together with the order of documents on the subject of our commercial relations with Mexico. Adopted.

Kelly offered a resolution asking the Secretary of the Treasury for information regarding the deposit of government money in any national bank, on the 30th of September and November, 1878, other than by disbursing agents. Adopted. Adjourned.

Investigation was ordered into the charges affecting the character of members in connection with the vote in regard to 365 bonds of the District.

The resolution for the appointment of a yellow fever commissioner was passed.

Brenano made a personal explanation regarding a statement in the Washington Post that he received \$13,500 for voting to pay the interest on the District of Columbia bonds. He moved an investigation by the committee. Adopted.

Adjourned till Monday.

## AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 4.—Although Senator Sargent is recovering from his second attack of malaria fever, his physicians are of

the opinion that he cannot regain his strength without complete rest. He therefore intends to leave Washington as soon as he gets strength enough to go with his wife to Nashua, New Providence, which he hopes to do in about a week. He will be gone a month or longer, if necessary. If able, he will examine his immensely accumulated correspondence before he leaves town, and turn over to his colleagues such matters as they can attend to.

Representatives Horace Davis and Page called at the State Department, to-day, to make joint inquiry concerning the progress of the diplomatic negotiations for a modification of the Burlingame Treaty. They had a long and very cordial conversation with Secretary Evarts, but although they found him earnestly, even warmly in favor of the adoption by our government of a restrictive policy in regard to the Mongolian immigration, yet, nevertheless, they came away convinced that what they previously apprehended is still to be expected, namely, that the Chinese will be able, by the use of ordinary diplomatic delays and artifices, to postpone almost indefinitely any concerted action by the two governments in the nature of a treaty revision, and that the purpose of the Chinese embassy in Washington is merely to pursue the Fabian policy of wearing out their opponents by inaction. A point blank refusal by the Chinese government to consent to a modification of the treaty by ordinary means, they perceive, would strengthen the chances of direct legislative action to restrict Mongolian immigration, and the Chinese ministers, therefore, seem disposed to postpone, as long as possible, any expression of their real wishes or intentions. Davis and Page, and doubtless other members of the Pacific coast delegation, will, however, treat this delay on the part of the Chinese authorities as equivalent to a refusal and, with all possible vigor, urge upon Congress the necessity of using its unquestionable power to enact an immediate legislative remedy for the evils which negotiation would still leave for it to cure, and which, if convinced of their existence, it should remedy with or without the consent of the Emperor of China, under the higher international law of self-preservation. A report is current here, and may obtain publication elsewhere, that the President has referred the subject of Chinese immigration to Secretary Evarts for investigation, with a view to making it the subject of a special message, not to this Congress, but to the next Congress. There is no foundation whatever for this story, except the pendency of negotiations with the Chinese government under the concurrent resolution adopted last session.

CHICAGO, 4.—Jacob Vilinger, who murdered his wife in a brutal manner, was to-day acquitted of murder by a jury, on the ground of insanity. He will be sent to an asylum.

The Mexican excursion party leaves here under the management of the Illinois Central Railroad on January 4th. Advices state that the Mexican government has appropriated \$50,000 for their entertainment, and the funds placed in the hands of a reception committee.

The Tribune's Washington special says: Supervising Architect Hill was, this afternoon, suspended by the peremptory order of the President, pending his trial on the indictments found in Chicago. Secretary Sherman was averse to this action, but the President was firm that the indicted man should not have access to, and charge of the records on which his guilt depends.

NEW YORK, 4.—A fire this evening destroyed the Pacific flour, grain and feed mills, and the grain elevator, situated on Columbia Street, between Pacific and Amity Streets, Brooklyn. Loss, \$200,000. Insured.

CINCINNATI, 4.—John O'Connor, ex-member of the legislature, was convicted to-day, in the United States court, of perjury, in swearing to false affidavits for the purpose of procuring a pension from the government.

BURLINGTON, Iowa, 4.—Smith, Cook & Co.'s large tobacco factory, known as the Mississippi Valley Tobacco Works, which pays an annual tax of \$100,000, burned to-night, and but for the efficiency of the Holly waterworks system, the whole business section of the city would have been destroyed. Loss on the building \$10,000 and on the stock \$40,000; all insured.

The joint commission having under consideration the proposition of transferring the Indian Bureau to the War Department met, to-day. The first witness was D. A. C. Barstow, of Providence, R. I., chairman of the board of Indian commissioners. He said, in his judgment, the proposed transfer was unwise, that if effected, it would certainly work adversely to Christian operations now in progress. He recited at length many interviews had with army officers on the subject and said those favoring the transfer appeared to have but one reason therefor, namely, that the War department paid better salaries for similar duty than did the department of the Interior. He considered that there are some very good men in the army, but did not think them adapted to the requirements of Indian agents, and was positive they are incapable of promoting religion, civilization, etc.

J. M. Kingsley, of New York, member of the Board of Indian commissioners, was the next. He said: We need an army with hoes and spades for the Indians rather than swords and rifles. If the commission so desired he would produce the books of his office for every expenditure made by the board and where purchases were made, where forwarded, and the disposition made of the same. He favored the continuation of the existing peace policy. Should the transfer be made, the board would not feel that they had any active sympathies. The good work done by the board had, in many instances, been demoralized by the surrounding military posts. Adjourned.

NEW YORK, 5.—The Tribune says: Keene's purchase is confined to No. 2 spring wheat, in which New York does little. It is stated that Rufus Hatch, who is Keene's New York broker in the grain market, went to Chicago this morning. A grain merchant, professing to have some knowledge of Keene's movement, said yesterday, that it was not his object to "corner" the market but to hold as tender to stock speculation. He intended to hold this grain to be brought east later in the season, when the traffic on the trunk lines was dull, when he should be able to force them to carry it at "cut" rates. If the railroads should refuse to do this he would burst the bubble in stocks. Although he had bought grain to operate against the railroads he, at same time, it was said, regarded the wheat at present prices as the cheapest property in the market, and that in anticipation of a large export business, the investment would be profitable before the opening of navigation in the spring. He evidently believed, it was said, taking past years into consideration, that when Europe began to buy, the price would reach a dollar a bushel. It was believed, yesterday, that if Keene proposed to make a "corner" by his speculation, that he had undertaken more than he had anticipated, as it would require such an amount of ready money to meet the offerings, his scheme would burst and prices then go lower than ever. It is thought one of his ideas was to buy January wheat to such an extent as to make "shorts" come to him for their supplies.

TOWANDA, Pa., 5.—Nelson Vanderpool, a half breed Indian, who lives in this county, claims to have Charley Ross in his possession. Christian K. Ross arrived from Philadelphia, last night, and left this morning in company with Vanderpool for a place nine miles distant, to investigate.

BALLSTON, N. Y., 5.—George West's cotton mill was burned, this morning; loss \$60,000; insurance \$30,000.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, 5.—The boiler at Hayden's rolling mill exploded, this morning, while a number of workmen were standing around it. Two men were instantly killed and four seriously injured.

FALL RIVER, Mass., 5.—The grand jury indicted Charles P. Stickney, Horatio O. Howard (colored), insurance agents, and John A. Caffey, lawyer, for embezzlement.

WASHINGTON, 5.—It is ascertained that about the first thing which will be required by the Potter committee, when it resumes work next week, is more money, and when the committee asks for more money several republicans intend to call for an itemized account of the \$25,000 already expended, and especially for items appertaining to the committee's

cool seaside sessions at Atlantic City.

In view of the rapid progress already made with the appropriation bills, and the apprehended danger to the party in control of the House of allowing too much scope for political discussion and private legislation, the Speaker and other prominent northern democrats are laying plans for a long holiday recess, to begin as early as the 19th or 20th inst., and last until the 6th of January. It is doubtful, however, if a majority of both houses will consent to so great an abridgment of the short session.

The bill, introduced by Senator Booth, to-day, for the relief of homestead settlers, provides that any citizen who has settled, or may hereafter settle on public lands, either surveyed or unsurveyed, with the intention of claiming a tract under the homestead laws, shall be allowed the same time to file his homestead application and perfect his original entry in the land office as is now allowed to settlers under the pre-emption laws to put their claims on record, and shall relate back to the date of settlement, the same as if he had settled under the pre-emption laws. The bill also provides that lands originally entered under the homestead laws, and not in good faith, and lands abandoned before final entry, shall be subject to either homestead or pre-emption entry by the first settler who has settled, or shall hereafter settle upon them, provided that within six months from the date of settlement he shall take the necessary steps to have the same incompleted homestead entry cancelled and shall pay the land office fees in the contest.

CHICAGO, 5.—The effect of the strike at the stock yards has not been manifested yet in business on 'change,' and it is not certain what the result will be. Provisions are phenomenally low, only about what they were a year ago, and are lower in proportion than hogs. For this reason the packers against whom the strike occurred state that they are not anxious to end it, as they do not care to pack heavy quantities against a market that is not at present auspicious. Should the packers accede to the strikers there would follow a series of strikes in all other packing establishments. Should they import men from New York the strikers threaten to cause trouble. It is likely, however, that the strike will end soon in a compromise, in which the workmen will come off second best.

The Daily News, London, says. To the column of which General Roberts is commander, has been committed the task of forcing the Peiwar Pass. This is the central pass of the three by which the British army is marching upon Cabul, Candahar and Herat. Brown's force has penetrated beyond Jelalabad, and he has sent a brigade for forage and to reconnoitre through both the great and little Khyber passes, so that he virtually has now no obstacle between him and Cabul. The force of Gen. Baddulph may be called the left wing of the army. That is marching through the Quettah Pass toward Candahar, a comparatively friendly country. The important victory of General Roberts opens up the entire country of Cabul to the British. The villages of Peiwar, Kotland, Shutar and Guardian are situated southeast from Cabul, and are all on the line of one of the routes leading from the Ameer's capital into British India. This Guardian Dewar is a village of Afghanistan, near the source of the river Helmund. It has an elevation of 1,076 feet. The battles fought by General Roberts was evidently conducted on scientific principles, considering his own small loss of less than 100 men and comparing it with that of his opponents, from whom he also captured 15 cannon. General Brown is doubtless waiting for the support of General Roberts' force before making a push direct for the capital by the better known route of the Khyber Pass.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., 5.—Sackett, Davis & Co., one of the oldest and heaviest manufacturing jewelry houses in this city, made a trust conveyance of the firm and individual members for the benefit of creditors. The liabilities are about \$220,000. The firm estimates the property at three times that amount. Unavailable real estate is said to be the chief cause of the embarrassment.

COLUMBUS, O., 5.—By the boiler explosion here, Wm. Lowes, one of the injured, had the flesh scalded off his face, and will be blind, even

if he lives. He was blown several feet away and buried under the debris.

It is apparent that a lack of water in the boiler caused the explosion. SAN FRANCISCO, 5.—A Walla Walla, Oregon, dispatch says: The two Umatilla Indians, convicted of murdering settlers in the late Indian war, have been sentenced to be hanged January 2nd.

CHICAGO, 6.—New York merchants complain that the Mexican trade is suffering greatly from the wholesale smuggling of our goods across the borders. They claim that the Mexican custom officers openly assert the fraud which is carried on so extensively, that regular exporters from eastern ports and from western rivers, find it impossible to compete, and are gradually reducing their adventures.

Private New Orleans advices state that Governor Nicholls is visiting all the bulldozed parishes taking evidence of fraud, with intent to punish to the limit of the law, all guilty of corrupting, intimidating, or murdering electors.

The Tribune says: Orville Grant was released from the State lunatic asylum, at Morris Plains, N. J., yesterday, and was accompanied to his home at Elizabeth, by his son.

The Sun says, editorially: The session is only four days old, but already jobs and extravagances begin to put in an appearance. Yesterday, for instance, Mitchell introduced bills appropriating \$265,000 for the further improvement of three Oregon rivers. Mitchell is a stirring, practical man, who believes in taking time by the forelock. Later on we shall hear from his slower associates, who have come to Washington with like projects for depleting the Treasury. It seems to be labor wasted to remonstrate against the substitution of "log-rolling," for well-considered and economical legislation.

NEW YORK, 7.—The World's special says: Wade Hampton is worse, and fears are entertained that he cannot recover. His leg will be amputated, to-day, when the crisis will be reached.

The Tribune's Washington special says: Grant has finally concluded to visit Asia before his return to the United States. A cable dispatch has been received from him accepting the courtesies proffered by the administration in connection with the intended voyage of the United States steamship Richmond, to India, China and Japan. In his correspondence with friends in this country, Grant has not before expressed a final determination to carry out what always has been his desire, to visit British India. This will prolong Grant's absence another year.

In the absence of cheap abundant land, those thrown out of work have no means of relief through resort to farming. Starvation or charity appear the only alternatives. Wages in the cotton mills have been reduced 20 per cent. within a few months. A further reduction is threatened. In Blackburn, out of 80,000 inhabitants, from 8,000 to 10,000 operatives are out of employment.

The worst is yet to come, and a fearful crisis is anticipated by or near Christmas. The wages reductions in the coal and iron trade was from 15 to 20 per cent. during the last year; the average wages of Scotch miners, 75 cents; Welsh, 85; Northumberland, 125. At Wolverhampton and other coal and iron centers hundreds are actually starving. Families are often without food for days in succession.

Similar stories come from Sheffield. A reliable correspondent there distress is deplorable and harrowing to behold. He never witnessed anything like the present scarcity and poverty. Sheffield also is feeling the severity of American and German competition.

A year ago, in England, building trades were comparatively brisk. In some cases workmen actually were on strike for better wages. Now they are glad to get work even at lower rates than then. The tin mining trade of Cornwall is also in a state of great stagnation. The same is true of the potteries of Staffordshire. No industry is doing well. The best that can be said of any is that they are working full time and just managing to live. Even farmers complain of the hard times, and of the foreign supplies of grain, meat, and other staple foods which compete with English produce. Notwithstanding the prices are high, even potatoes being \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bushel.