

BY TELEGRAPH.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 24.—The District Commissioners this afternoon announced their decision in the matter of the Washington police investigation. Major Walker, Chief of Police, is allowed to resign. Lieut. Arnold is dismissed, Lieut. Kelly is reprimanded and suspended for three months without pay, Sergeant Diggs is reprimanded and reduced to the ranks for three months and Private Edell is dismissed.

CRUISERS.

About three dozen gentlemen assembled in the office of the Secretary of the Navy to-day to witness the opening of the proposals for the construction of three cruisers, the *Newark*, *Baltimore* and *Charleston*, and two gunboats. Secretary Whitney read the bids, as follows:

Cruiser No. 1, 4000 tons, complete—Harlan & Hollingsworth Company, Wilmington, Del., \$1,224,000; Union Iron Works San Francisco, \$1,132,000; Cramp & Sons of Philadelphia (under special bid providing for the use of engines of their own design), \$1,198,000.

Cruiser No. 2, complete according to the Department design—Cramp & Sons, \$1,665,000; Union Iron Works, \$1,017,500. Special bids providing for the construction of engines according to their own designs, were put in by the Harlan & Hollingsworth Company at \$1,100,040, and by Cramp & Son, at \$1,050,000.

Cruiser No. 3, complete according to the Department's specifications—Cramp & Son, \$1,325,001; Union Iron Works, \$1,348,000; Harlan & Hollingsworth Company, under their special bid, using their own engine designs, \$1,452,000.

Gunboat No. 1, complete according to the Department's design—Charles Reeder & Sons, of Baltimore, \$495,000; Columbian Iron Works and Dry Dock Company of Baltimore, \$499,720; Cramp & Sons (special bid, using their own engine designs), \$455,000. Charles Reeder & Sons submit a special bid for supplying the machinery alone at \$185,000.

Gunboat No. 2, complete—There was only one bid, by the Columbian Iron Works, at \$247,000. For supplying engines and machinery of this boat Reeder & Sons bid \$95,000 and A. J. Rumsey & Son of Baltimore \$89,000.

The awards will not be made for some days. Speaking upon the bidding, Secretary Whitney said: "I am well satisfied, except with cruiser No. 1. No bid has been received within the limit fixed by Congress for the outside cost of the boat. The only soliloquy I have ever had with reference to the bidding arose from the fact that the conditions which were imposed upon the bidders in the way of producing horsepower, upon which the speed of the ships depended, is much more exacting than ever has been called for before. I feared that the limits fixed by Congress for the cost of the ships would be exceeded on the three large cruisers and No. 1 gunboat. We shall be able to let all but the four thousand ton ship to responsible parties within the limits fixed."

The Secretary added that the bids are only about fifteen per cent higher than those of similar sizes and character constructed abroad, which he considered a very favorable showing.

THE PRESIDENT AND MR. STONE.

President Cleveland makes public the following correspondence:

PITTSBURG, Nov. 18, 1886.

Hon. A. H. Garland, Attorney General:

SIR—I have read the correspondence between the President and the Hon. M. E. Benton, United States Attorney, connected with his restoration to office, in which it appears that he was suspended from office for his apparent neglect of official duties in making campaign speeches. Presumably my suspension was ordered for the same reason. I desire, therefore, to state the facts in my case. I made but two speeches prior to the reception of the order of suspension, one at Butler, in an adjoining county, on the evening of October 1st, and one at Kittanning, a town near Pittsburg, on the evening of October 2nd. I did not leave Pittsburg for Butler until nearly 4 o'clock, October 1st, and returned on the morning of the 2nd, about 9 o'clock. I left Pittsburg for Kittanning on Saturday, October 2nd, about 5 o'clock p. m., and returned the same night. Upon both the above dates the United States Courts here were not in session, except a short time in the morning of each day, for ordinary motions. I was in attendance upon the courts during their sittings, and did not leave the city upon either occasions until long after the courts had adjourned. On October 18th, the United States District Court began its session at Pittsburg for the trial of jury cases, a petit and grand jury being in attendance.

From October 2nd until October 18th I was engaged in the preparation of causes for trial, and from October 18th until October 27th, the date of the receipt of order of suspension, I was engaged in the trial of these causes. Neither during this period, from October 2nd to October 27th, nor at any other time, did I in any particular neglect the duties of my office. These statements may be verified by inquiry of any officer of our courts. I feel it

my duty after reading the correspondence between the President and Mr. Benton to state these facts in justice to myself, and respectfully request that this communication be referred to the President.

I may also add that I did not think that making an occasional campaign speech to my neighbors, while not neglecting the duties of my office, would be a violation of the President's order of July 10th, 1886.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM A. STONE.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Nov. 24.

Hon. J. H. Garland, Attorney-General:

Dear Sir:—I have read the letter of the 18th inst., written to you by Wm. A. Stone, lately suspended from office as District Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania, and the subject matter to which it refers has received my careful consideration. I shall not impute to the writer any mischievous motive in his plainly erroneous assumption that his case and that of Mr. Benton, recently suspended and re-instated, rest upon the same state of facts, but prefer to regard his letter as containing the best statement possible upon the question of his re-instatement.

You remember the course that was adopted soon after the present Administration was installed, and I think nearly a year and a half ago. I considered with you certain charges which had been preferred against Mr. Stone as a Federal official. You remember, too, that the action we then contemplated was withheld by reason of the excuses and explanations of his friends. These excuses and explanations induced me to believe that Mr. Stone's retention would insure the faithful performance of his official duty; and that whatever offensive partisanship he had deemed justifiable in other circumstances, he would during his continuance in office at his request under an Administration opposed to him in political creed and policy, content himself with the quiet and unobtrusive enjoyment of his political privileges. I certainly supposed that his sense of propriety would cause him to refrain from pursuing such a partisan course as would not only offend and irritate the friends of the Administration, who insisted that he should not be retained in office, either because of his personal merit or in an adherence to the methods which for a long time had prevailed in the distribution of Federal offices. In the light of the latter system, and without considering his political affiliations, Mr. Stone, when permitted to remain in office, became a part of the business organization of the present administration, bound by every obligation of honor to assist within his sphere in its successful operation. This obligation involved not only the proper performance of official duty, but certain good faith and fidelity, which, while not exacting the least sacrifice of principle, forbade participation in purely partisan demonstrations of a pronounced type, undertaken for the purpose of advancing partisan interests and conducted upon the avowed theory that the administration of the government was not entitled to the confidence and respect of the people. There is no dispute whatever concerning the fact that Mr. Stone did join others who were campaigning the State of Pennsylvania in opposition to the administration. It appears, too, that he was active with noisy enthusiasm while in attendance upon at least two large public meetings, where the speeches were largely devoted to the abuse and misrepresentation of the administration, and he approved all this and actually addressed meetings himself in somewhat the same strain; that he attended such meetings away from his home for the purpose of making such addresses, and that he was advertised as one of the speakers at each of said meetings. I shall accept as true the statement of Mr. Stone, that the time spent by him in thus demonstrating his willingness to hold a profitable office at the hands of an administration which he endeavored to discredit with the people, and which had justly overlooked his previous offenses, did not rest in the neglect of his ordinary official duty, but his conduct has brought to light such an unfriendliness towards the administration which he pretends to serve, and of which he is nominally a part, and such a consequent lack of loyal interest in its success, that the safest and surest guaranty of his faithful service is, in my opinion, entirely wanting. His course, in itself such as should not have been entered upon while maintaining official relations to the Administration, also renews and revives with unmistakable interpretation of their character and intent, the charges of offensive partisanship heretofore made, and up to this time held in abeyance. Mr. Stone, and others of like disposition, are not to suppose that party lines are so far obliterated that the administration of the Government is to be trusted, in places high or low, to those who aggressively or constantly endeavor, unfairly, to destroy the confidence of the people in the party responsible for such Administration. While vicious partisan methods should not be allowed for partisan purposes to degrade or injure the public service, it is my belief that nothing tends so much to discredit our efforts, (in the interest of the service) to treat fairly and generously the official incumbency of political opponents, as conduct such as is here disclosed. The people of this country certainly do not require the best results of administrative endeavor to be reached with such agencies as

these. Upon full consideration of all I have before me, I am constrained to decline the application of Mr. Stone for his reinstatement. I enclose his letter with this and desire you to acquaint him with my decision.

Yours, very truly,

GROVER CLEVELAND.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
WASHINGTON,
Nov. 24, 1886.

Hon. Wm. A. Stone, Pittsburg, Pa.

SIR:—I am directed by the President to say to you that after consideration of your letter of the 18th inst., he will not revoke or change the order heretofore made suspending you as District Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Very respectfully,

A. H. GARLAND.

TELEPHONE CASES.

Upon inquiry at the Department of Justice to-day it was learned that no further action would be taken by the Government in regard to the suits against the Bell Telephone Company until the decree of the Circuit Court at Columbus, Ohio, shall be officially promulgated which will not be done till the court reassembles on December 7th.

THE INDIANS.

The Commission composed of James R. Howard, District of Columbia and John G. Walker, of Virginia, appointed by the Indian office to make an allotment of lands in severalty to the Crow Indians in Montana, has returned to this city. The Commission succeeded in making 131 allotments as contemplated. A large majority of the tribe, however, refused to abandon their tribal relations owing principally, it is said, to the pernicious influence of Sitting Bull and other Indians from the Standing Rock Agency, who, contrary to the orders of the Indian Office and against the advice of the agent of the Crows, left their reservations for the purpose of defeating the objects of the commission. It is said that an effort with the same object in view will be made in the spring.

The Secretary of the Interior has received information that the Commission appointed to secure from the Indians of the Umatilla reservation in Oregon their consent to the provisions of the act of Congress, passed March 3rd, 1885, providing the allotment of lands in severalty to those Indians, granting patents therefor and disposing of the surplus lands of the reservation for the benefit of the Indians, has been successful in every particular. Steps will now be taken to carry out the provisions of the act.

THE NAVY YARDS.

The gross amount of estimates for the different navy yards and stations as shown by the annual report of Rear Admiral Harmony, is \$7,380,020, made up in the following items: Improvements, \$3,498,930, general maintenance \$419,950, repairs and preservation \$1,240,673, naval asylum \$87,611, civil establishment \$78,501. The report treats at length of the rapid deterioration of the buildings and docks from the lack of appropriations sufficient to maintain them. The advisability of providing dry docks in comparatively remote places, unrequented by merchant shipping, is suggested, and it is said that these docks could be used by the navy in conjunction with the merchant marine.

MINISTER MANNING'S INDISCRETIONS.

At the State Department nothing is known beyond what has appeared in the newspapers with regard to the reports from the City of Mexico, charging Minister Manning with grave indiscretions. Not much importance is attached to the reports, which are believed to be highly exaggerated. The department authorizes a denial of the statement that Minister Manning has sent a cable dispatch in reference to the alleged scandal.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office has sent to the officers of the Senate and House of Representatives, copies of the map of the United States, recently prepared under the direction of the General Land Office. Each Senator will receive for distribution about thirty copies and each Representative about ten copies.

SUIT FOR THE POTOMAC FLATS.

WASHINGTON, 25.—The Attorney-General will to-morrow institute a suit in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia to settle the title to the Potomac flats, especially that portion of them which has been known for years as Kidwell Meadows. The list of defendants is very long, numbering forty-nine, and distributed over a wide range of territory.

The annual report of Treasurer Comptroller of the Currency contains suggestions for the amendment of the National Bank laws in about a dozen instances, including the contingent liability of shareholders, requirements as to the reserve, the limit of loans to individuals, a more thorough examination of banks, and their protection against unequal State taxation. The specific character of these suggestions is withheld for the present. Three thousand five hundred and eighty National banks have organized, of which 2,888 are now in operation. Of these 174 have been organized during the past year with a capital of \$21,000,000 and a circulation of \$2,900,000. Twenty-four banks went into voluntary liquidation during the year, one ceased to exist by the expiration of its charter, and eight failed. Since the

beginning of the system in 1863 only 112 National Banks have failed. Of these 63 have paid their creditors in full, and 20 have paid interest besides.

TREATY WITH TONGA.

George F. Bates, of Wilmington, Del., the special envoy whom Secretary Bayard sent out to investigate and report upon the difficulties arising out of the action of Colonel Greenbaum at Apia, in the Samoan Islands, has just arrived in this city, having, it is said, concluded the negotiation of a commercial treaty with the King of the Tonga Islands, in the Pacific Ocean. The treaty is believed to provide for the admission of a number of American products free into the islands, in return for the free admission of a limited amount of products of the islands named.

OTTAWA, Ont., 24.—The correspondence between the Canadian and the United States authorities confirms the report of the recent Indian massacre in the Northwest. It appears that a band of Gros Ventre Indians passed Fort Assinaboine, the south boundary line, and on exhibiting six scalps, were detained by the American troops. Upon being pressed, they gave an account of the fight which had taken place. They then took the militia to the Sweet Grass Hills where the scalping was done, the scene being located in Canadian territory. The American troops could not cross the line and the Canadian mounted police were ordered to make a search for the dead bodies, and found them as represented by the Gros Ventres, in the Sweet Grass Hills.

CHICAGO, 25.—The Continental Hotel was found to be on fire early this morning in six different rooms. The fire marshal declares the fire was undoubtedly incendiary work. The hotel has one hundred guest rooms, and the guests were thoroughly panic stricken, rushing out in the street in their night clothing. The damage in the building is only slight.

A U. P. HOTEL BURNED.

CHEYENNE, 25.—The Union Pacific Hotel, leased by the Pacific Company, burned this afternoon. The building is partially and the stock and furniture totally destroyed. The loss on the building and furniture is \$25,000, partially insured. The fire caught in the third story, from a defective flue. A man named McElroy, a Union Pacific employe, was killed by a falling porch. Several firemen were severely injured.

LONDON, 25.—The Vienna correspondent of the Times says that all the European Governments, except the English, have notified Russia that they are willing to accept the Prince of Mingrelia as the candidate for the Bulgarian throne. Proposals for a mediation between Russia and Bulgaria are being suggested.

SOMERSET, 25.—Another conspiracy against the Government has been discovered. Two officers, one of them a Russian, organized a plot to kill Nicolai, Major Popoff and the Regents. The crime was to have been committed at 5 o'clock this morning. Major Popoff discovered the plot and caused the arrest of two officers and of two others who are implicated. They will be tried in a few days.

CHICAGO, 20.—The *Daily News* Bloomington special says: The decision on the application for a supersedeas in the Anarchists' case is now being considered by Justice Scott, of the Illinois supreme court, cannot be given before to-morrow.

A special to the *Inter-Ocean* from Bloomington, Ill., says: Captain Black, one of the attorneys for the Anarchists, mysteriously disappeared from Bloomington early this morning and as mysteriously reappeared in this city this afternoon. He would give no information as to where he had been, but quietly rejoined his associate lawyer in their weary, silent watch for the decision from Chief Justice Scott, upon the application for a supersedeas in behalf of the condemned men. Notwithstanding Captain Black's reticence, it is learned that he secretly secured a carriage, and, driving into the country, boarded the train that left Bloomington at 2:16 a. m. for Ottawa. There he visited the clerk of the Illinois Supreme Court, and made arrangements with that official to be on hand all day Thanksgiving, so that should the supersedeas be granted by to-morrow, the clerk would be in readiness to take further steps necessary to stay the execution.

Bloomington, Ill., 25.—At 11 o'clock this morning Judge Scott granted a supersedeas in the Anarchists' case. Black, Swett and Solomon start at once to Ottawa to have the clerk issue an order in pursuance to Judge Scott's instructions. The effect of the decision to grant a supersedeas, is to stay the executions set for Dec. 3d, at least until the Supreme Court can pass upon the motion for a new trial.

PITTSBURG, 25.—It has been snowing and raining here since daylight. On the mountains east of here a sleet storm is raging and all the wires are down for 30 miles between Derry and Coenaman on the Pennsylvania Railroad. Telegraphic communication has also been interrupted between this city and Washington, D. C.

Philadelphia, 25.—Rain, accompanied by cyclonic manifestations, swept over the centre of Gloucester County, New Jersey, this afternoon. In the vicinity of Titman Grove the wind blew with the force of a tornado. The Glassboro accommodation had a narrow escape from being wrecked. The thunder, lightning and hail were terrific. At several points the electricity touched the branches on the trees, and the

electric current was so strong as to set fire to the trees.

New York, 25.—Advices to the Associated Press are to the effect that a heavy snowstorm has prevailed in northern New York and northern and western Pennsylvania.

At Binghamton, N. Y., the pioneer rink was crushed by the weight of snow on the roof. An entertainment was to be held there, and a large number of people were going to the place. About 20 persons were inside at the time, but all escaped. In this city it rained heavily with occasional sheets of snow.

MANDAN, Dakota, 25.—Two children named Mesial were frozen to death ten miles north of here while looking for lost stock. Two young men, brothers, named Sims were frozen to death, while returning from work.

Sanborn, Dak., 25.—Mrs. Joseph Hazetting was lost in the blizzard on Monday night, and when found was so badly frozen that her recovery is doubtful.

PITTSBURG, 25.—At the meeting of the Pittsburg branch of the Miner's Association of Banksville, Pennsylvania, last night, President Costello, Vice-President Gallagher, Treasurer Taylor, and Trustees Strobbe, Allsop, and Carnes tendered their resignations in order that they might join the Knights of Labor. This action may result in adding 3000 members to the latter organization, but prominent members of the Miner's Association state that the old organization will continue in existence and that President Harris will be in the city in a few days to reorganize the association and elect new officers. The retiring officers will act as organizers for the Knights of Labor.

PITTSBURG, 25.—The through express on the Cleveland & Pittsburg Railroad, which left this city at 11:25 last night, ran into a freight train at Conway's station 20 miles from Pittsburg on the Fort Wayne Road, shortly after midnight, derailling the caboose and five freight cars and the engine of the express train. The fireman, Harry Burkshaw, of Cleveland, was hurled from the cab and killed outright. None of the passengers were injured. The freight train had stopped to take a supply of water, when the express crashed into it.

New York, 24.—The counsel of the executors of the will of the late Chester A. Arthur to-day procured an order from Judge Bookstaver of the court of Common Pleas for the issuance of a citation for the probate of the will made returnable one week from Saturday. The ex-President's will was executed March 8, 1886. It was witnessed by Rastus S. Ransom, James C. Reed and James S. Briggs. It states that the heirs and next of kin are Chester Allen Arthur and Ellen Herndon Arthur. Mrs. McElroy is said to have been appointed guardian of his daughter. The will has not been filed. It is believed to dispose of about \$250,000 of real and personal property.

WILKESBARRE, 25.—Shortly after the miners and laborers entered Conyngham's shaft this morning, an explosion of gas took place. Between 20 and 30 miners are said to be burned and seriously injured, but none are reported dead. Very little information regarding the accident can be learned as yet, as the men are still in the pit, but will be removed as soon as possible. This shaft is known to contain considerable gas, and is owned and operated by the Delaware and Hudson Co. The explosion occurred in a shanty at the foot of the shaft which was occupied by the fire boss. No work was done yesterday and consequently there was a larger quantity of gas than usual in the shaft. The men are now being removed from the pit and taken to their homes, or the hospital. It is thought all will recover. Later accounts say the accident in the Conyngham shaft occurred while the men were getting ready to work. About fifty men were sitting at the foot of the shaft awaiting the inside boss, when the explosion occurred, and only three or four men escaped without injury. It is known that several, possibly

TWELVE OR FIFTEEN WILL DIE.

Others will be scarred and maimed for life. The disaster was caused by Cornelius Boyle, a mine laborer, who stepped in to work out a chamber which was filled with gas, with a lighted lamp upon his head. Boyle will die. Many mules were killed and wounded. The damage to the inside of the shaft are great. The fire boss, William Williams and William Evans, were fatally burned. Great excitement prevails in and about the shaft, and full knowledge as to the exact number of those hurt and the character of the wounds of those injured cannot be obtained.

SALEM, Mass., 26.—There was considerable rioting by striking tanners in this city yesterday. They pursued and beat unmercifully a number of non-union men and wrecked the street cars. One of the number was severely wounded by a pistol shot fired by one of their victims. A large body of police were required to quell the disturbance.

New York, 26.—The Henry George Progressive Democratic party is requiring every one that joins the party in Boston and New Haven to make the following pledge. The same formula will be used in all cities where the party effects an organization:

Article XIII, Section 1.—Every person admitted as a member of this organization shall be introduced to the President and requested to raise his right hand repeating this: "I (giving the name) have read or have heard read and do approve of the declaration