

[SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.]

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CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 12.—Ramsey, from the committee on post offices and post roads, reported a bill authorizing the establishment of an ocean mail steamship service, between the United States and Australia. It directs the Postmaster-General to contract with Wm. H. Webb, Ben. Holladay and associates, for carrying a mail between San Francisco and Australia and New Zealand, by a line of steamships, at a compensation not exceeding \$500,000 per annum.

Cole introduced a bill for the relief of census marshals and directing the Secretary of the Interior to increase, one hundred per cent., the compensation of Assistant U. S. Marshals west of the Rocky Mountains.

The Senate occupied some time in discussing the House resolution for a joint committee on the ocean telegraph legislation. A motion to table the subject failed, 35 to 25, when the bill was laid over until next morning.

The House resolution, calling upon the Postmaster-General for information in reference to the amount of free matter transmitted through the mails was adopted.

Edwards presented, and had read, a remonstrance of Mrs. Gen. Sherman and a thousand other ladies against women's suffrage.

The Senate resumed the consideration of Trumbull's bill to relieve Congressmen from importunity, and discussed it without coming to a vote. Several other Senators wishing to speak further, the consideration was deferred until Wednesday next.

After a short executive session the Senate adjourned.

Scott presented a memorial from a committee representing the Pennsylvania legislature and the common council and Franklin Institute of Philadelphia, giving reason why the celebration of the centennial anniversary of Independence should be held at Philadelphia, on July 4th, 1876. Referred to the committee on foreign relations.

The Senate took up the House resolution for the joint ocean cable company; but after a brief discussion went into executive session, and soon after adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.

The House resumed consideration of the bill, reported yesterday from the committee on agriculture, for the better care of cattle in transit by railroad or other means of transportation.

A discussion took place on the proviso directing that hereafter no laws or treaties shall be published in newspapers, except those which are general and selected by the Secretary of State.

Benjamin offered an amendment, repealing the provision, which was voted out on a point of order. An amendment was adopted limiting the publication to two papers in each State and Territory; the amendment providing that the publication be in the papers having the most circulation. Benjamin then offered a substitute for the entire paragraph, which was as follows: "For publishing the laws, in pamphlet form, ten thousand dollars; and all laws requiring laws to be published in newspapers are hereby repealed." The substitute was agreed to by sixty-nine to sixty-two. After proceeding with the bill as far as the 37th page, the Committee arose, and the House adjourned.

The joint resolution appropriating \$250,000 for continued work on the Louisville and Portland canal, and \$341,000 for the completion of the Des Moines Rapids' improvement, was discussed and passed.

The House bill for a commission to investigate the claims arising from depredations by or upon Indians in Kansas was passed. It was amended so as to include Nebraska.

The House passed the Senate bill, authorizing the increase of the issue of five per cent. bonds to five hundred million dollars, with an amendment that the total issue shall not be increased.

Dawes introduced a bill to establish the salaries of officers of the Treasury Department; referred to the committee on appropriations.

The House then, at 1:40 o'clock, went into committee of the whole, and re-

sumed consideration of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill.

Porter asked leave to offer a resolution directing the committee on military affairs to inquire what legislation was necessary to prevent cadet Smith, of West Point Military Academy, from being ill treated and persecuted on account of color. Randall: "Let him behave himself." Connor objected.

GENERAL.

Boston, 12.—The jury in the great smuggling case were together all night, and to-day returned a general verdict of guilty against Dexter T. Mills and Samuel O. Land.

INDIANAPOLIS, 12.—The legislature in joint convention to-day elected A. J. Bright, proprietor of the Indianapolis *Daily Sentinel*, State Printer; and Patrick Shannon agent of the State in New York.

The investigation into the charges against the Rev. Dr. Lanahan, assistant agent of the Methodist book concern, by the book committee and the bishops of the church, was begun to-day at the Mission rooms. Many prominent men of the church, from all parts of the country, were present; among them Bishop Ames, Simpson, James and Scott. Rev. B. Brooks of St. Paul, Minn., occupied the chair. The morning session was taken up with settling the preliminaries, for which no precedent exists, this being the first case of the kind in the history of the church. The propriety of admitting the public was debated at great length and finally defeated.

The trial of the Rev. Dr. Lanahan, Jr., agent of the Methodist book concern, opens at the publishing house to-day, before a court, consisting of the general book committee and such bishops of the Church as may be able to attend.

BINGHAMPTON, 11.—Ruloff, one of the three burglars indicted for the murder of a clerk in the store of Hulbert Bros., of this city, last summer, is convicted with a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree. The prisoner's counsel moved to stay the sentence. The motion will be heard to-morrow.

The Ruloff murder trial ended this forenoon, by the denial of the motion for a stay of proceedings. The sentence of the Court, by Judge Hogen, was that Ruloff be hanged on the 3rd day of March in the court-house yard of this city.

NEW YORK, 12.—The coal miners of Schuylkill county, Lehigh and Wyoming valleys, composing the Working Men's Benevolent Association, struck on Tuesday. By the terms of agreement the employees of the big companies will join the association, which they have heretofore refused to do. The strike throws about one hundred thousand miners out of employment, and also a large number of railroad men employed on the Delaware & Lackawanna and Central roads.

LOUISVILLE, 12.—It is reported that a party of nineteen masked men, yesterday afternoon, attacked a party of negroes on the stamping ground, Scott county, and killed three. They then went to the forks of the Elk Horn, in the same county, and, in a fight with a party of armed negroes, three of the latter were wounded. One of the masked men was killed. The corpse was identified as that of a young man named Force, of Henry county. The negroes are excited and frightened and are flocking, in crowds, into Frankfort.

SAN FRANCISCO, 12.—A German, named H. G. Wortmann, who is supposed to have been operating extensively in fraudulent drafts, purporting to be drawn on Plump & Co., Bremen, payable in New York, was arrested at Santa Cruz to-day; he admits to having recently disposed of several in Chicago.

WASHINGTON, 12.—The San Domingo resolution having passed the Senate is now operative. The President was informed of the fact at once, and he has already chosen commissioners. They are Benjamin T. Wade, Bishop Simpson and ex-Congressman W. E. Dodge, of New York. Wade and Dodge are already in the city. Simpson is expected to-morrow. Full instructions will at once be prepared, probably Monday next. It is understood they will be absent thirty or forty days.

The nomination was made to-day, of Silas A. Strickland, of Nebraska, as Governor of Utah Territory.

The President was informed this afternoon, by ex-Senator Wade and President White of Cornell University, that they accepted the appointment of commissioners to San Domingo. Bishop Simpson's engagements compel

him to decline. Gen. Franz Siegel has accepted the appointment of secretary to the commissioners.

WASHINGTON, 12.—In the matter of the assessment against Brigham Young, Trustee of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, it was held by Commissioner Pleasanton that the funds he collected by said Church, from its members, were voluntary donations, and as such were not subject to the Internal tax; but that the annual gains increasing from any portions of such donations, invested in financial purposes, were income, and subject to the laws. The Assessors have been directed to make a new assessment upon the principles indicated.

The Senate, in executive session, confirmed the following nominations: A. H. Connor, Indians, Governor of Idaho; Herman Bendel, New York, Superintendent of Indian affairs for Arizona. The Senate was a long time in session on the nomination of Porter to be admiral of the navy. The subject will be resumed to-morrow.

The Labor Congress, to-day, appointed a committee to draft a memorial to Congress, looking to better traveling facilities for colored people through the West and South. The committee appointed are to ascertain the best manner to colonize the colored laboring men on public lands in the West.

The Women Suffrage Convention, to-day, was addressed by Mrs. Davis, Rhode Island, Miss Hazelton, Mich., Mrs. Hooker, Madame Ely, Miss Anthony, Mrs. Wolfe, Nevada, and Dr. Breed, of New York.

Another raid was made, to-day upon illicit whisky stills in the Fifth Ward, Brooklyn, by Supervisors Dutcher and Revenue officers Jourdan and Wass. The raid to-day, was successfully carried out, owing to the presence of one thousand U. S. troops, under the command of General Voydes. Nineteen stills, containing eighty-five hogsheads of mash, valued collectively at a hundred and fifty thousand dollars have been destroyed.

NEW YORK, 12.—The Book Committee and Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church met to-day to investigate the charges against Dr. Lanahan. The charges contain twenty-five specifications and are preferred by a number of clergymen. Rev. H. S. Pease, of New York, was the chief accuser. The Book committee and Bishops form the court.

CHARLESTON.—There is much excitement among the members of the Legislature, owing to the disturbed condition of affairs in several of the counties of the State: The ultra Radicals, under Elliot, colored, and ex-Member elect to the 43rd Congress, charges the whole responsibility of the troubles on the insufficiency of Governor Scott's administration in not organizing the colored militia and declaring martial law. They talk of impeaching the Governor. The Conservatives and the Lieut.-Governor support the policy of Governor Scott, which is understood to be to send only U. S. troops to the disturbed counties, if military force is required at all. The people of those counties have held large public meetings in the interest of law and order. The State Senate has tabled the amnesty resolutions adopted by the House.

A letter has been received from General Sigel, withdrawing his acceptance of the appointment of Secretary to the commissioners to San Domingo, on the ground that it is said that he is not sufficiently versed in the Spanish language, as required by the joint resolutions. The third commissioner had not, at noon to-day, been appointed.

The Senate held an executive session yesterday, lasting over an hour, for the consideration of the nomination of Admiral Porter, and is now in session and the same old arguments for and against his confirmation, have been made by his friends and opponents. Morton, Nye, Abbott, and others, adverted to the confirmation as an act of justice to a brave officer, holding, if the President could afford to nominate him, personal considerations ought not to influence members. Towards the close of the session the question was raised, that if the Senate failed to confirm, Porter would be out of service, as he had been constitutionally appointed, and his previous commission, as Vice-Admiral, had been vacated by the appointment of Rowan. This was a new view of the case, and was discussed by the best lawyers of the Senate. It is clear that the affirmative side of the question is the right one, as Rowan has been nominated for Vice-Admiral, and if he be confirmed to Porter's old position, before the case of Porter should be acted on, and Porter should be sub-

sequently rejected, he could not go back to his former rank, which had been constitutionally filled by Rowan. He would thus be cut out of service. This view of the case will operate in Porter's favor, as the Senators are not disposed to legislate him out of office. Were it not for this question, he would be rejected by a large vote. When the subject had been discussed for some time, Porter's friends suggested an adjournment; but this his opponents refused until a vote was taken, and his friends, by a small majority, carried their point. It is understood the vote will be taken to-day; and the opinion is general that he will be confirmed by a small majority.

Rumor couples the name of Frederick Douglas with the San Domingo Commission.

SAN FRANCISCO, 13.—The California Pacific Railroad Company, whose lines commence at Vallejo, running north, elected the strongest and most responsible board of directors ever chosen on this coast, consisting of Ed. M. Green, Linden Julius May, Rudolph Lulseback, Frankfort, N. K. Jessup, N. Y., Col. John P. Jackson, Eugene L. Sullivan, F. D. Atherton, Parrott, M. S. Lathain, San Francisco. The Company declare their intention to push the work, on all the branches and the main line, and not to sell out or be absorbed in any rival organization. The financial condition is unexpectedly good and the business of the road satisfactory. Extensive improvements are to be made at Vallejo, by the company.

NEW YORK, 13.—Yesterday afternoon the official board of officers inspected the frigate *Tennessee*, which will carry the San Domingo Commission, and pronounced her properly fitted out and equipped for sea. It will require six or eight days for the *Tennessee* to sail from New York to Samana Bay under favorable circumstances. As now contemplated the ship will sail from here with the commissioners on Monday next, and make a straight wake for the island. The commissioners are expected from Washington on Sunday morning, and will be on board before two o'clock in the afternoon. The ship will undoubtedly drop down to the anchorage off Ellis Island to-day, and take her powder on board.

Stocks are very steady and strong; Governments are strong and about a quarter higher than at the close last night.

The board of underwriters, at a meeting to-day, unanimously agreed to the necessity of urging such a course of action as will force Congress to realize, that the American people wish their representatives to pass the *Alabama* claims bill pending in the House, and make individual losses to citizens in time of war a national matter.

ALBANY.—There is reason to believe that the express robbery was committed by a man named John J. Filkins. A reward of \$5,500 is offered for his arrest.

Boston, 13.—A private Washington dispatch says Dr. S. G. Howe, Boston, has been appointed Third Commissioner to San Domingo.

WASHINGTON, 13.—Allan A. Durham of Kentucky, was appointed and accepted the Secretaryship of the San Domingan commission, in place of Gen. Sigel, declined.

NEW YORK.—The following invitation is addressed to managers and to the theatrical profession in the United States for the object of honoring the memory and aiding the family of the late Geo. Holland, who, in his long and brilliant career, as manager and actor, appeared in all the principal cities of the country. "All the theatres in the United States are invited to participate in the Holland testimonial in New York, by a simultaneous performance on Thursday afternoon, Jan., 19th. All the New York theatres will unite in that performance, will you?" Signed, Lester Wallack, Edwin Booth, J. Jefferson, John Gilbert. Send answer to Wallack's Theatre, New York.

Boston, 14.—The Fenians of Boston are making arrangements for a public ovation, in this city, to their released brethren, who have arrived from England, and have chosen a testimonial to them.

Mr. Bliss, of the firm of Bliss & Co., of New York, has been elected President of the U. P. R. R., in place of Oliver Ames, resigned.

St. Louis, 14.—A large school house, at Collinsville, Ill., was totally destroyed by fire, yesterday morning. It cost forty thousand three years ago, insured, in Putnam and Hartford, \$15,000.

Several roofs in the city fell, yesterday and to-day, under the weight of sleet and snow, damaging buildings several thousand dollars. Rain has