

BY TELEGRAPH.

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AMERICAN.

ST. LOUIS, 17.—The first national convention of cattlemen ever held in this country, opened its sessions this morning. Delegates were present representing nearly all the Northwestern States and Territories and several Eastern States, Mexico, England and Scotland. Col. R. D. Hunter of St. Louis, the originator of the project, called the convention to order and announced as the object of the gathering the formation of a national league of the cattle interest for mutual good. After urging unanimity of action, he introduced Col. C. C. Rainwater of St. Louis as temporary chairman. On motion of Ex-Senator Dorsey of New Mexico, Delegate Thos. Sturgis of Wyoming was made temporary secretary. Mr. Sturgis then read the call issued in January last, pursuant to which the convention met. A heated discussion ensued, participated in by Messrs. Dorsey of New Mexico, Curtis of New York, Judge Lindsay of Texas and many others, upon a resolution of Gen. Curtis as to the method of making up committees on credentials and permanent organization, the western delegates contending for a representative from each stock association, and the Eastern delegates for one delegate only from each State. The former finally prevailed by an overwhelming vote.

At this juncture the chairman announced that Governor Crittenden and Mayor Ewing would appear before the convention and welcome the delegates on behalf of the State of Missouri and the city of St. Louis.

These gentlemen appeared, with a military escort, Gov. Crittenden leaning on the arm of Gen. W. T. Sherman and accompanied by his staff, ex-Gov. Thos. C. Fletcher, Col. Meyers of the State Guard and others.

Mayor Ewing was first introduced. He thanked the delegates for the honor of selecting St. Louis as the place for the convention, and extended all the hospitality of the corporation.

Gov. Crittenden followed, adding his welcome to that of Mayor Ewing and speaking at some length of the nature of the questions to be discussed by the convention. Among other things, he said: "I think Congress should set aside of the public domain sufficient for a national or international trail from the Red River on the north to the Red River on the south, and wide enough to accommodate a million cattle, and now is the time to memorialize Congress to that end." He also spoke of the growing demand for meats throughout the world, of the necessity for proper breeding and the adoption of conditions of existence to each particular breed.

General Sherman also responded and made a brief address of a general nature. He concluded as follows: "I used to regret to see the buffalo, elk and antelope disappearing from the plains, and to see in their stead a race of scrawny long-horned Texas cattle. I can now see, however, that it was a decree of nature, and that you, gentlemen, have reared a race of twenty millions of fine breeding cattle which supply the world with meat."

The convention took a recess till 3 o'clock this afternoon.

An amusing feature of the convention is the cowboy band from Fort Dodge, Kansas, 20 men strong and in full frontier costume. They played several selections during the morning's session, eliciting great applause. The leader wields, in place of a baton, a silver-mounted derringer nearly a foot long.

The convention reassembled, and, after accepting invitations from the Merchants' Exchange and several other public and private institutions to visit them, adjourned to 10 a.m. to-morrow, when a permanent organization will be effected and real work begun.

SAN FRANCISCO, 17.—The chief importance of the annual meeting of the Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company, which took place on Saturday afternoon, lies in the fact that Claus Spreckles and his sons, representing the firm of J. D. Spreckles & Co., are the principle shareholders and hold the controlling interest of the stock. The capital of the stock is \$10,000,000. It was formed to purchase certain lands owned by Claus Spreckles on the Island of Maui, one of the Hawaiian group, and certain privileges conceded him by the Hawaiian government; also, a lease for thirty years of other lands on the Island owned by him. In consideration of these lands and privileges, Claus Spreckles & Sons received \$6,400,000 in fully paid up stock of the company. The balance of the stock, representing \$3,600,000, held by other shareholders, has been called and expended, so that the capital stock is fully paid up.

Purchased with the \$3,600,000 paid in by outside shareholders, are, four sugar mills, some thirty-five miles of railroad with equipment, reservoir and canal, estimated at \$500,000, buildings and other material. The report stated that all the available capital had been exhausted, and that \$1,000,000 additional had been expended. To meet this additional expenditure, Claus Spreckles had borrowed, on his individual note, from the Nevada Bank, \$1,000,000. He asked the shareholders to secure him by levying an assessment on the fully paid-up stock. The matter was referred.

The loss sustained by the company is explained by the drop in the price of sugar, the crop from this plantation

selling at \$87 a ton against \$120 last year. The yield also was small, owing to the insufficient water. Spreckles said more canals were wanted, and more money to build them, but refused to advance it for the benefit of outsiders. The matter as it stands gives Spreckles control of the property. He retired from the presidency in order to give the other shareholders an opportunity of discussing more freely the affairs of the company, but still retains his original holding and control. The company's difficulties do not embarrass him. He has several other sugar plantations on other islands which pay largely. It is a well known fact that he has half a million dollars in coin lying to his credit in one of the big banks of this city. The chances are that these Maui plantations will eventually fall into his hands.

WASHINGTON, 17.—Upon the opening of the Swaim court-martial to-day Gen. Grosvenor, one of the council for the accused read an objection on the part of Gen. Swaim to Paymaster General Rochester sitting as a member of the court. He stated the grounds of his objections to be that Gen. Rochester is a material witness in this case in respect to the second charge against Gen. Swaim, of neglecting to report and take notice of the alleged fact that Col. Morrow had fraudulently duplicated his pay accounts, and also that the accused having favored the appointment of Col. McClure to the Paymaster Generalship at the time Gen. Rochester was appointed, and this fact being known to the latter.

After argument, the room was cleared, and when the doors reopened the Judge Advocate announced that the objections against Gen. Rosecrans sitting as a member of the court had been sustained. Gen. Swaim was then asked if he desired to object to any other member of the court. He replied that he desired to do so, and Judge Shellabarger then read a challenge of General Schofield's right to sit as a member of the court, on the ground that he (Schofield) was prejudiced against Gen. Swaim and could not sit in the trial as an impartial judge. The challenge against Schofield was not sustained, Gen. Terry was also challenged and the challenge in his case sustained.

Objection was then made by General Swaim to Gen. Murray, on the ground of prejudice, growing out of Swaim's opposition to his appointment as Surgeon-General.

General Murray having declared upon *voir dire* that he entertained no prejudice against Gen. Swaim that would influence his judgment in this case, the challenge was withdrawn.

Counsel for Gen. Swaim were then allowed to ask Col. Andrews and Col. Ayers, without formally challenging these officers, whether they had formed or expressed any opinion as to Swaim's guilt or innocence, and whether they entertained any prejudice against him that would influence their judgment in the case. Both having answered in the negative, the court was then organized with 11 members by the swearing in of members and the Judge Advocate. The latter stated that Gen. Swaim requested that subpoenas be issued for the Secretary of War, Gen. Rochester, Major Carey, Col. Barr and Major Scott. Recess until to-morrow.

The challenge against General Terry was sustained because he stated that he would prefer not to sit upon the trial and be one of General Swaim's judges.

The Solicitor of the Treasury has instructed the U. S. District Attorney of the middle district of Alabama to bring suit against the sureties on the bond of Geo. Adam Badeau, late consul-general at Havana, to recover \$12,000 received by that officer as notarial fees, and alleged to have been illegally withheld.

Henry D. Lyman, Second Assistant Postmaster General, submitted his annual report. It shows that the cost for inland transportation for the year was as follows: For 729 Star routes, aggregating 226,779 miles, \$5,089,941; 117 steamboat routes, aggregating 15,901 miles, \$96,572; 1,573 railroad routes, aggregating 117,160 miles, \$15,012,603; total, \$20,699,117.

The rule governing undelivered letters sent from hotels has been, heretofore, to send them to the dead letter office, regardless of the printed request to return to the hotel. The rule was to-day amended by Postmaster-General Hatton, as follows: Unclaimed letters inclosed in envelopes, upon which hotel cards are printed, should not be returned to the mailing office unless such envelopes have written or printed thereon the words "Return to" in addition to the hotel card. Proprietors of hotels should not omit the usual return request from envelopes supplied to their guests, and guests using such envelopes should be careful to designate what disposition should be made of the letters by them in case they cannot be delivered.

The annual report of Rear Admiral Nichols, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, has been submitted. The estimates for the Mare Island yard for the year '86, is \$927,313. Respecting them Admiral Nichols says they seem large, but when the importance of this yard is considered at present, and what its importance will be in the future, when the navy shall be restored even in part to its former magnitude, the estimates will not seem so over-extravagant.

In the annual report of the light-house board \$225,000 is asked for lighting and buoying rivers; \$150,000 is necessary to continue work on the light-house at northwest Seal Rock, off Point St. George, California. The es-

timates for general appropriations for the next fiscal year, including supplies, repairs, salaries, expenses, light, vessels, buoyage and flag signals, etc., are \$2,160,000. The estimates for special appropriations amount to \$1,261,500, made up in part of the following items: Angel Island, flag signal, \$4,500; Cape Oxford, light station, Oregon, \$2,000; Destruction Island, light station, Washington Territory, \$8,500; supply steamer, \$150,000; building for light-house board, \$250,000.

ALBANY, 17.—President-elect Cleveland's callers to-day were numerous. There was a constant stream in and out of the executive chamber all day. The Governor was accessible to most callers until late in the afternoon, when he retired to his private room for consultation with political friends.

CHATTANOOGA, 17.—Rev. Wm. Davis, one of the most prominent ministers of Boone county, Tenn., has disappeared under the most suspicious circumstances, and it is thought he has been murdered. He left his home last week on a visit to an afflicted family and has not since been seen. The skiff in which he crossed the river was found at the bank overturned, but further on in a swamp his hat and coat were found secreted. He had several hundred dollars on his person.

BALTIMORE, 17.—Mrs. Sarah Smith, wife of a postoffice clerk, fearing that her husband would lose his office when Cleveland enters the White House, tried to kill herself yesterday. She opened the arteries in her wrist and then cut her throat with a razor. She was found insensible on the floor of her bedroom and cannot recover.

GALVESTON, 17.—The Galveston News-Byron, Tex., special of the 16th, says: Between 2 and 3 o'clock this morning, the office of the Texas Express Company in this place was entered and the safe robbed of \$10,850. The thieves were evidently well posted, as both the doors of the office and safe were opened with duplicate keys. It is also evident the thieves were aware of the receipt of the money by a late train, and the fact that it would not be delivered till banking hours. Ten thousand dollars of the money was consigned to Clark, Bryan & Howell, bankers, and the remainder to various parties. The finding of a knife bearing the initials of a young Spaniard named Barrett led to his immediate arrest. The detectives are on the trail of others supposed to be implicated.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., 17.—Robert McPhun, alias Bryce, who was arrested, charged with forgery in Calcutta, is in jail here. He desires to be taken to Calcutta immediately, and, in charge of Officer Webb, who identified him, will start in a few days. Bryce admits forgery to the amount of about \$100,000 on the Calcutta Tea Co., of which he was a director.

OMAHA, Neb., 17.—At Blue Hill in this county, last evening, Joe Cook, a murderer, was taken from jail and hanged to a derrick. The sheriff appeared and rescued the prisoner before death ensued. His injuries, however, will probably prove fatal.

HALIFAX, N. S., 17.—A dispatch received here to-night from Picton, N. S., says: A crew of eleven wreckers from the steamship *Inverolt*, stranded on Pictou Island, while attempting to land in a life boat yesterday afternoon during a northerly gale, had their boat upset on a reef, and eight of them were drowned.

BOSTON, 17.—The ship *Anahuac*, owned by the William F. Wild estate, is lying at Sourabaya, bound for Australia. It is reported that Captain Freeman and the first officer have died from cholera, and that a new commander will be sent from here to take the ship to its destination.

DENVER, 17.—About 200 coal miners, employed at the Walsenburg mines by the Colorado Coal & Iron Co. of this city, went out on strike this morning. These miners took part in the recent general strike and only returned to work last Thursday. As they are members of the Miners' Union, serious complications and trouble through the State are among the probabilities. Their present grievances are unknown.

GOLDSBORO, N. C., 17.—Twenty-five leading business houses in the business part of the city, were burned, including the extensive machine shops of W. F. Kornegay & Co., the Messenger printing office and building, together with several large stocks of merchandise and a quantity of cotton. The total loss exceeds \$200,000; insurance \$150,000.

Savannah, 17.—An incendiary fire this morning, originating in Freeland & Co's warehouse, destroyed portions of two blocks and all of two others. Loss \$200,000; insurance \$58,000.

Fargo, Dak., 17.—The Continental Hotel was entirely destroyed at three o'clock this morning. All the guests and inmates escaped in safety, but most of their effects were destroyed. Loss about \$75,000.

Denver, 17.—The Clarendon Hotel at Aspen, Colorado, is burned. Supposed incendiary. The loss is estimated at \$19,000; insurance \$7,500.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., 17.—The bank commissioners have obtained an injunction from the Supreme Court restraining the Portsmouth Trust and Guarantee Company of this city from further continuance of business. The institution was incorporated in 1871 with a capital of \$100,000, and a guarantee fund of the same amount for the protection of depositors. The directors issue a statement showing that the guarantee fund has been impaired through depreciation of real estate. The amount of the impairment is stated to be about \$54,000. The directors state that all depositors will be paid in full. The deposits amount to \$417,000, with 680 depositors, mostly poor people.

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QUEREC, 18.—T. H. Bignell of this city, who left in June last in command of the transport expedition to Lake Mistassini, has returned. He gives a few particulars taken en route. The party with great difficulty reached the province's northern boundary on a height of land. They then crossed into Rupert's Land, and at a distance of 360 miles from Lake St. John, they reached the south-western extremity of the Great Lake Mistassini. He states that the general trend of the lake as far as known is from south-west to north-east, stretching away from Foam Bay and the height of land in the southwest to an unknown distance towards the East Main and Labrador. The waters swarm with fish of all kinds, and fur-bearing animals are abundant. The climate is agreeable and suitable for agricultural purposes. It is stated that the Hudson Bay Company have had their agency there for upward of one hundred years, but have held it secret that that a lake of such dimensions ever existed. It is supposed to be as large as Lake Superior.

ST. LOUIS, 18.—At the second day's session of the National Convention of cattlemen, Hon. John Finn was appointed sergeant-at-arms. The formal announcement was then made of the members of committees on credentials and permanent organization and resolutions, consisting of one delegate from each association represented in the convention and from each State and Territory, numbering in all, over one hundred to each committee.

INDIANAPOLIS, 17.—Hendricks starts east this evening to attend the Democratic jollification at Brooklyn on Thursday.

AUGUSTA, Me., 18.—A large number of devoted personal and political friends of Blaine serenaded him last evening as an expression of personal good will and admiration of his conduct in the national campaign. They marched through the streets under the marshals of Col. Frank Nye. When they reached Blaine's house their compliments and friendly regards were expressed in a speech by Herbert M. Heath, Esq., of the Kennebec bar. Blaine responded as follows, his speech being continually interrupted by applause:

Friends and Neighbors.—The national contest is over, and, by the narrowest of margins, we have lost. I thank you for your call, which, if not one of joyous congratulations, is one, I am sure, of confidence and of sanguine hope for the future. I thank you for the public opportunity you give me to express my sense of obligation, not only to you, but to all republicans of Maine. They responded to my nomination with genuine enthusiasm and ratified it by a superb vote. I count it as one of the honors and qualifications of my public career that the party in Maine—after struggling hard for six years, and twice within that period losing the State—has come back in this campaign to the old-fashioned 20,000 plurality. No other expression of popular confidence and esteem could equal that of the people among whom I have lived for 30 years, and to whom I am attached by all the ties that ennoble human nature and give joy and dignity to life. After Maine—indeed, along with Maine—my first thought is always of Pennsylvania. How can I fittingly express my thanks for that unparalleled majority of more than 80,000 votes?—a popular endorsement which has deeply touched my heart, and which has if possible increased my affection for that grand old commonwealth; an affection which I inherited from my ancestry, and which I shall transmit to my children. But I do not limit my thanks to the State of my residence and the State of my birth. I owe much to the true and zealous friends in New England who worked so nobly for the republican party and its candidates, and to the eminent scholars and divines who stepping aside from their ordinary avocations, made my cause, their cause, and to loyalty to principle

added the special compliment of standing as my personal representatives in the national struggle. But the achievements for the republican cause in the East are even surpassed by the splendid victories in the West.

In that magnificent cordon of States that stretches from the foothills of the Alleghenies to the Golden Gate of the Pacific, beginning with Ohio and ending with California, the republican banner was borne so loftily that but a single State failed to join in the wide acclaim of triumph. Nor should I do justice to my own feelings if I failed to thank the republicans of the Empire State, who encountered so much discouragement and so many obstacles, who fought foes from within and foes from without, and who waged so strong a battle that the change of one vote in every two thousand would have given us victory in the nation. Indeed, a change of little more than 5,000 votes would have transferred New York, Indiana, New Jersey and Connecticut to the republican stand, and would have made the North as solid as the South. My thanks would still be incomplete if I should fail to recognize, with special gratitude, that great body of working men, both native and foreign born, who gave their earnest support, breaking from old personal and party ties and finding in the principles which I represented in the canvass the safeguard and protection of their own fireside interests.

The result of the election, my friends, will be regarded in the future, I think, as extraordinary. The Northern States, leaving out the cities of New York and Brooklyn from the count, sustained the republican cause by a majority of more than four hundred thousand—almost half a million indeed—of the popular vote. The cities of New York and Brooklyn threw their great strength and influence with the solid South, and were the decisive element which gave to that section the control of the national Government. Speaking not at all as a defeated candidate, but simply as a loyal and devoted American, I think the transfer of the political power of the Government to the South is a great national misfortune.

It is a misfortune, because it introduces an element which cannot insure harmony and prosperity to the people; because it introduces into the Republic the rule of a minority. The first instinct of an American is equality—equality of right, equality of privilege, equality of political power: that equality which says to every citizen "Your vote is just as good, just as potential as the vote of any other." That cannot be said to-day in the United States. The course of affairs in the South has crushed out the political power of more than six millions of American citizens, and has transferred it, by violence, to others. Forty-two Presidential electors are assigned to the South on account of its colored population, and yet the colored population, with more than 1,100,000 legal voters, have been unable to choose a single elector. Even in those States where they have a majority of more than 100,000, they are deprived of free suffrage, and their rights as citizens are scornfully trampled under foot. The eleven States that comprised the rebel confederacy had, by the census of 1880, 7,500,000 white population and 5,300,000 colored population. The colored population almost to a man desire to support the Republican party; but, by a system of cruel intimidation, and by violence and murder whenever violence and murder are thought necessary, they are absolutely deprived of all political power. If the outrage stopped there it would be bad enough, but it does not stop there, for not only is the negro population disfranchised, but the power which rightfully and constitutionally belongs to them is transferred to the white population, thus enabling the white population of the South to exert an electoral influence far beyond that exerted by the same number of white people in the North. To illustrate just how it works, to the destruction of all fair elections, let me present to you five States in the late Confederacy and five loyal States of the North, possessing in each section the same number of electoral votes: In the South the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina have in the aggregate 48 electoral votes. They have 2,800,000 white people and over 3,000,000 colored people. In the north the States of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas and California have likewise in the aggregate 48 electoral votes, and they have a white population of 5,600,000, or just double that of the five Southern States which I have named. These Northern States have practically no colored population. It is therefore evident that the white men in these Southern States, by usurping and absorbing the rights of colored men, are exerting just double the political power of the white men in the Northern States. I submit, my friends, that such a condition of affairs is extraordinary, unjust and derogatory to the manhood of the north. Even those who are vindictively opposed to negro suffrage will not deny that if Presidential electors are assigned to the South by reason of its negro population, that population ought to be permitted free suffrage in elections. To deny that clear proposition is to affirm that the Southern white man in the Gulf States is entitled to double the political power of the Northern white man in the Lake States. It is to affirm that the Confederate soldier shall wield twice the influence that the Union soldier can, and that perpetual and constantly-increasing superiority shall be conceded to the Southern white man in national