

BY TELEGRAPH.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

A MERICAN.

BUFFALO, 17.—A serious fire, attended by a heavy loss of life, occurred, this evening about 6 o'clock. The fire was discovered in the third story of the immense five-story building owned by Geo. W. Tift, and occupied by Birge & Sons, wall paper manufacturers. The building is 80 feet front by about 300 feet in depth, and about 150 men and boys are employed at the present time, business demanding extra help. All of the number were at work, and in less than 20 minutes after the alarm was given the building was a mass of flames. Walls crumbled and fell and probably buried 20 to 30 employees. The doors to the different rooms were hung to swing in, and had a heavy spring closing them, thereby retarding the egress of occupants. The building was without fire escapes of any kind. The terrified workmen jumped from windows, and many escaped with broken bones and bruised bodies. Those in the upper stories, unable to escape, appeared for a moment at the windows and then sank back suffocated in the smoke and flames. Following is a list of those known to be killed: One of the foremen in the fifth shop badly burned, who jumped to the ground, is unrecognizable. His head and body are mashed to a jelly. It is supposed to be Thomas Fields; John Malone, aged 15; jumped from the fifth story, killed; Wm. Berry fatally injured in the head, spine and inwardly, jumped from the fourth story. The injured are: John Griffin, jumped from the fourth floor, right arm broken and badly injured internally. Moses Maloney, leg fractured, jumped from the fifth story. Patrick O'Brien, badly burned about the head and back and arm broken. Ed. McCormick jumped from the fifth floor, badly cut on the head. Moses Malone, brother of John Malone, jumped from the fifth floor, fractured leg and broken arm. Mike O'Brien, right leg broken. The following are missing and supposed to be in the ruins: Stephen Hackett, Martin McGee, Peter Swarner, John and James Stoul, brothers, and Jay Voltz. The flames next communicated to the Union Mail House, adjoining; also the property of Geo. A. Tift, which was destroyed. The building was three story high, 60 feet wide, 200 feet long, containing \$25,000 worth of grain, the property of John B. Manning. The loss can only be estimated at present and is placed at \$283,000. The insurance is estimated at \$180,000.

James Ryan and John Kennedy, employed on the fourth floor of the Birge building jumped to the ground escaping with only slight bruises. A small boy, name unknown, was seen to jump from the fifth floor and catch hold of the telephone wire which broke, and sliding on the wire escaped with only badly cut hands. The parents and friends of dead and missing ones surround the ruins. The streets are full of rumors and probably the list of "known to be killed" will be more than doubled when the smoking bricks and ruins can be removed.

WASHINGTON, 17.—Delegate Cannon, of Utah, who has four wives and a seat in Congress, is not disturbed by the reports from Utah, which represent that Governor Murray will withhold his certificate and give it to Campbell, upon the ground that Cannon is married too much and has never been a legally naturalized citizen of the United States. Cannon says: I think the Governor will delay as long as he can in giving me the certificate. I doubt if he will give it to Campbell. No one disputes my majority nor the fairness of the election. The Governor is only a ministerial officer. He cannot judge my election. The House is the only body empowered to judge of the election and qualifications of its own members. Campbell will in all probability contest my seat. He claims that I am not legally a naturalized citizen of the United States. That question was settled by the Forty-Fourth Congress. My seat was contested at that time, the question of citizenship being the principal one involved. While no report on that question was ever made to the House, the members of the committee were unanimously of the opinion that I had been properly naturalized.

Vice-President Wheeler, to-day, received the electoral votes of Rhode Island, Ohio, Indiana, Kansas and California, in each instance by a

messenger. He has now either received by mail or messenger the votes of all the States, except Oregon.

Secretary Thompson, whose resignation goes into effect on Monday next, at the request of a number of friends and subordinate officers, will hold a reception in his office to-morrow afternoon, for the purpose of taking a formal leave of employees. The secretary will probably remain at the department until Monday next. He will visit his home in Indiana in the course of a week or so, to attend to some business, after which he expects to return to Washington for the winter.

CORK, 17.—There is a great want of employment throughout the country, owing to the fear of landlords to lay out money. At several meetings recently held farmers were summoned to give employment to laborers. An agent of the Earl of Cork was requested to provide labor on the Earl's estate near Charleville, County Cork, and he has just intimated that he will open works in that locality and give employment until March, 1881.

London, 17.—The followers of government are embarrassed and for the most part do not know what to say, while a few are bold enough to express their regret at the line their leaders have pursued. Whitbread, one of the most respected liberals in the House of Commons, speaking at Bedford last night, described vividly the reign of terror that had left no honest calling safe in a large part of Ireland, and avowed his feeling that the sad time had come when government might be compelled to use coercion. There have been liberal governments before the present government, harassed by Irish difficulties, but they have not been slow to do what they could to assert the authority of law. The contrast between the spirit of those times and the spirit prevailing now is little to the credit of government or that of the present generation. It is imperatively necessary that remedial legislation should be received as satisfaction of justice, but it is too probable that it will be received as a concession of lawlessness, with which government did not venture to grapple. If arbitrary demands are not granted in the form in which they have been made, it will still be said that what is given is the result of the demonstration of the irresistible power of the people, determined to have their own way. Most false and foolish notions will thus be confirmed in the brain of the Irish peasant. The shortcomings of government thus threaten us with the recurrence of difficulties in the future, for their conduct will encourage a repetition of the tactics with which they have not attempted to grapple.

Portsmouth, 17.—The iron screw ship *Assistance*, about to undergo refitting, has been ordered in readiness to proceed within 12 hours' notice on special service to Ireland.

Dublin, 17.—The officer commanding at Birr, King's County, has been ordered to patrol his district nightly with 40 soldiers. The police patrol has also been doubled.

William Bunce Jones, the victim of Boycotting, writes: "I am getting some resolute men from a distance, well armed, to replace the laborers who have left me. Two policemen sleep in my house and four others are stationed near my farm. I have applied for more protection, and troops are promised me on Friday."

Dublin, 17.—It is confidently stated that Michael Davitt's ticket of leave is about to be cancelled and that Davitt will be arrested.

London, 17.—A tenants' right meeting was held at Loughgall, Armagh County, to-day. Those present were principally Orangemen. A mob of 50 persons took possession of the platform which they destroyed. A meeting was then held in an adjoining field. Resolutions were passed in favor of peasant proprietary.

NEW YORK, 18.—The *World's* London says: At Port Adown to-day a body of Orangemen attacked the land league meeting, but beyond wrecking the platform and scattering the leaguers, did no harm. In the meantime the Orangemen are preparing to meet and resist the leaguers in another direction and their grand master, the Earl of Enniskillen, has, in accordance with a set plan, appointed a vigilance committee to protect property rights on the island. The method of operation will probably be soon made known. The state of anarchy and fear which now exists in Ireland, is startlingly illustrated by the declaration to the bench by the jury em-

panelled in one of the several murder cases shortly to be tried, that they do not and shall not consider as binding their oath to give a verdict according to their conscience, because a verdict of guilty would inevitably cost them their lives.

Mr. T. M. Sullivan, the member for Louth who yesterday secured the conviction of a fellow member, Mr. Callach, to pay a fine of £50 for having libelled him, left London to-night for Dublin to prepare the defense of the indicted members of the league.

I am informed that the sensational statement published by the *Daily Telegraph*, to the effect that government proposes to proclaim and reinforce martial law in the disturbed districts of Ireland is without any foundation in fact. O'Kelley, Irish member of Parliament, who protested so vigorously to Forster, a little over a week ago against orders then issued to disperse the Land League meeting at Enniskillen, has brought an action against Harvey, a magistrate of Brockboro, for an alleged assault committed while attempting to prevent the league meeting recently at that place.

Mr. Boyd, of New Ross, has just persuaded his workmen, after their threat of Boycotting him, to make a new arrangement for the completion of the work now in hand.

NEW YORK, 18.—The *Times* says: Canada's great Pacific Railway scheme is meeting with vigorous opposition in and out of the Dominion Parliament. The chief opponents are making an appeal to the people in the form of a public manifesto, in the hope of defeating the project. If as is claimed, the government is trying to turn over some hundreds of miles of road constructed with public money to a private company, besides giving a subsidy and grants of land, worth more than the entire work will cost, and relieving the whole vast property from taxation for twenty years, it is not to be wondered at that the opposition to the present administration is trying to turn the project against it as a political weapon. It is but a short time since the Province of British Columbia was heard from loudly protesting because a short line of road in Vancouver's Island, promised when the province joined to the confederation, has not been built and is not provided for in the pending contract. The protest was almost a threat of secession. The McDonald government with its protective tariff and internal improvement policy is having about all it can carry.

The *Sun* says: The last century the world has been talking about a ship canal across the Panama Isthmus. Finally Lesseps has got the enterprise well under way. All or nearly all of the money necessary has been provided and if he is not interfered with the canal will in due time be completed. Let it go on we say. The United States has no call to oppose him. If we want another canal by way of Nicaragua let us follow the example of Lesseps and raise the money and build it. But after waiting so long for somebody to begin we ought not to do anything to him except to wish him luck and lend him all the incidental aid that circumstances may allow.

WASHINGTON, 18.—There has been, and still is, much well grounded complaint in California of the great expense and other hardships to which settlers are frequently subjected by having to travel long distances from home and bring witness to determine at remote places the mineral or the agricultural character of their lands. Under the present practice, the registrar and receiver of the respective land districts are at the liberty to fix the place for taking testimony in any particular contest wherever they see fit, and the influence of wealthy speculators or powerful corporations is often exerted in such a manner in this regard as to work a practical denial of justice to poor men, who cannot afford to make long journeys. Representative Page, since his arrival here a fortnight ago, has urged this evil upon the attention of the General Land Office, and at his instance Commissioner Williamson has prepared and issued to-day the following circular addressed to all registrars and receivers throughout the country:

Gentlemen—In every case where it becomes necessary under the law and existing instructions from this office to require a hearing to be held and testimony taken for the purpose of ascertaining the mineral or agricultural character of land, you are directed to cause such hearing to be heard before a duly qualified officer

whose office is located nearest the land in dispute, the distance to be computed by the ordinary routes of travel. Whenever a local land office comes within this rule, hearing will be held before the registrar and receiver. It is intended to cause these hearings to be held, so far as practicable, in such manner as to cause the least inconvenience to persons interested. Should it appear, therefore, by written stipulation of all the parties, that the purposes will be best subserved by the designation of any particular officer, authorized to administer oaths within the land district in which the land in controversy is situated, the instructions therein may be departed from. In accordance with such stipulation it may also happen that the officer who would otherwise be selected is an interested party, or some good reason appear why the designation would be improper, and in such case you will direct the hearing to be held before the next nearest officer.

The following general order was issued from headquarters of the army, to-day:

The President directs that the following orders be issued:

One—Brigadier General O. O. Howard is assigned to the command of the department of West Point, and to duty as superintendent of the United States Academy, according to his brevet of major-general, and will relieve Major-General John M. Schofield.

Two—Brigadier-General C. C. Augur is assigned to the command of the department of Texas.

Third—Colonel Henry J. Hunt, Fifth Artillery, is assigned to the temporary command of the department of the south, according to his brevet of brigadier-general.

Fourth—The States of Arkansas and Louisiana and Indian Territory will constitute a military department, and will be known as the department of Arkansas, with headquarters at Little Rock, Ark. Col. R. S. Mackenzie, Fourth Artillery, is assigned to this command, according to his brevet of brigadier general.

Fifth—The departments of Texas and Arkansas will constitute the military division of the Gulf, with headquarters at New Orleans. Major General John M. Schofield is assigned to this command, until this division shall have been organized. The commanding generals of the departments of Texas and Arkansas will report to the Lieutenant Colonel commanding the military division of Missouri.

Sixth—Brigadier General N. A. Miles is assigned to the command of the department of Columbia. Until the arrival of General Miles at his headquarters, the command of the department of Columbia will be exercised by Col. Frank Wheaton, Second Infantry, according to his brevet of brigadier general.

By command of Gen. Sherman.
R. C. DRUM, Adj't General.

The consular and diplomatic appropriation bill now pending in the House, contains a provision raising the consulate at Apia, Samoan Islands, from the seventh to the fifth class, with an increase of salary from \$600 to \$2,000 per annum. This change is recommended by the State department to make the position more desirable for men of proper capacity and standing. This consulate is considered likely to become important to our commercial interests at an early day, and there is reason to believe the present incumbent would already have been dispatched had there been anyone else of requisite ability willing to accept it at the present small pay.

The plates surrendered by Brockway have arrived. Chief Drummond of the secret service department says that Brockway maintained that counterfeit money is usually made to sell; that he did not undertake any small work; that he always did work that would not affect poor people, always confining his operations to prominent banks. By so doing, he said, poor people were not affected, as banks had sinking funds and could make their loss good.

BUFFALO, 18.—The excitement is still very great and grave censures are passed upon the municipal authorities for want of fire escapes. A searching investigation is being demanded. Considerable indignation is expressed towards the owners and occupants of Birge & Sons' paper hanging works, for inadequate means of escape. The building was five stories high, and with no fire escape. To this neglect is due the loss of life. Some of the victims were killed by jumping from the fourth and fifth story windows, and others, who

feared to jump, perished in the flames.

NEW YORK, 16.—The steamship *Suevia* brought among her passengers four German mechanics exiled on account of Socialistic tendencies. The exiled band were met at Castle Garden by a committee of the Socialist organization in this city, and taken to Turner's Hall. All of them will be taken care of and supplied with employment by the organization here. The experience of one of them, Griefenberg, illustrates the hardships suffered in Germany by those who have fallen under the ban. He was first expelled from Berlin. Having a family to support he sought work as a compositor in Hamburg, and was lucky enough to obtain a situation. After he had worked a short time he was tapped on the shoulder by his foreman and told that on account of his being a Socialist, his services would be no longer required. From this city he went to Frankfurt, where he met with a similar experience. He was finally banished from the Empire. A number of prominent Socialists representing the professions are expected shortly from Berlin, among whom are some well known Jews.

The chairman of the clearing house has warned certain city banks from receiving funds on special deposit; and if the practice is continued, which is against the rules of the association, they will be expelled.

CHICAGO, 17.—*Journal's* Washington: A leading member of the republican national committee is authority for saying the committee, through Jno J. Davenport, is slowly but surely getting at the bottom of the Morey letter, and that evidence has already been obtained, showing the letter was not prepared by one person without accomplices, but was the result of a carefully conceived scheme on the part of a prominent democrat in Washington, with the knowledge of the leading managers. The committee has conclusive proof as to who wrote the letter, but before making it public wants to fasten the infamy connected with it upon the men who conceived the forgery and employed the willing tools to execute it.

OMAHA, 18.—Among the Union Pacific passengers to San Francisco, to-day, was his excellency Count von Thun Hohenstein, of Prague, Austria, accompanied by his servant and his secretary, Alfred Edward Buek, of Hamburg, Germany. They are en route on a trip around the world. Count von Thun Hohenstein is a member of the Reichsrath, and owns several large manufacturing establishments near Prague, among which are breweries and porcelain works. They will make a stop of three days at Salt Lake City.

TALMOUTH, Ky., 18.—On Wednesday night, Miss Artemus Fields, daughter of Laven Fields, attempted to elope with Robert Thornberry, but was overtaken by her father and whipped home. Night before last she eloped again; Fields pursued her to one Joseph Elliott's house, where Thornberry and Miss Fields were; he fired at Elliott, accusing him of aiding the elopement. The only shot that took effect was one that grazed his daughter's ear. The fugitives escaped.

NASHVILLE, 18.—An application for a mandamus having been made in the Circuit Court to compel the governor and secretary to issue a certificate of election to Stewart, democrat, from Polk and Bradley County, the case came up to-day and its consideration was postponed until January 25th. The postponement of the question has the effect to give the republican organization control of the House of Representatives.

DUBLIN, 18.—Mr. Boyd, of New Ross, has just persuaded his workmen, after their threat of Boycotting him, to make a new arrangement for the completion of the work now in hand.

London, 18.—The *Times'* Dublin special says: Loyal farmers and traders in many counties hitherto undisturbed are yielding very reluctantly to the pressure put upon them to join the Land League and to subscribe to its funds.

In consequence of the refusal of Gladstone to assist Boycott, the English public will be appealed to for aid. The list of a committee will be published shortly which will organize a subscription in aid of Boycott.

COLUMBUS, 20.—Thomas A. Cowgill wrote a letter on the 27th inst. to Governor Foster, in which he speaks most flatteringly of his (Foster's) services to the party, and then referring to the late great republican