

BY TELEGRAPH.

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AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 15.—The "Backbone" land grant resolution was laid before the Senate and Eustis made a speech upon it. He said a great wrong had been done the people of Louisiana, and he wished to enter his protest against its consummation. The title to the lands was illegal and fraudulent, and set up to defraud the settlers of their rights. This very title had been denounced by the New Orleans Pacific Company in documents which had been presented in Congress and in the Interior Department as utterly baseless and illegal. Everybody was perfectly agreed that the Backbone Company was a nuisance and a disgrace; that it never lived for any corporate purpose whatever, but was the mere skeleton of a derelict association. Yet, in 1881, by one of the most extraordinary proceedings on record, this defunct company made an assignment to the New Orleans Pacific Company; and it was upon such a title that the latter based its claim. The transfer was radically vicious and absolutely void. The consideration for it was the enormous sum of one dollar. One third of the stockholders denounced the act before the Interior Department as a sham and a fraud. He was glad to know that the Secretary of the Interior was going to investigate this matter, and he hoped that in future there would be an administration which would be in the interest of the people, and protect them from the rapacity of rich railroad corporations.

Teller defended his course, and said that not a point had been made by the Senator from Louisiana (Eustis) which had not been passed upon by the Attorney-General and the judiciary committee of the House. It had been the unbroken rule of the department for 16 years to issue these patents when the parties had complied with the conditions subsequent, without reference to time, and that had been done in nine cases out of ten without any inquiry whatever. When he was Secretary of the Interior he had issued papers in the same identical way which was now called in question, and that, too, without having taken into consideration the opinions of a committee of Congress or the opinion of the House, when, by a majority of 42, it had declared the grant should not be void. If the new Administration is to commence to undo what the late Administration has done, it should be done in accordance with the forms of law and in a manner comporting with the dignity of a great Administration presiding over the interests of 50,000,000 people.

Van Wyck, referring to Teller's speech last week, said the Senator from Colorado had suggested that every person who had spoken on this subject was not a lawyer, meaning probably a lawyer of railroad proclivities—such lawyers as during most of the last sixteen years had been at the head of the departments of Justice and the Interior, making precedents which the ex-Secretary boasted he had followed. It was usual for corporation attorneys to stigmatize the settler as an interloper and speculator. The ex-Secretary, he said, had listened so long to that dialect in the department that it was natural he should repeat it in his speech, and, sneering at such men, almost in the language of Tweed, ask, "What are you going to do about it?" Van Wyck asked why the late Secretary of the Interior was in such haste to issue these patents. Why was not the question left to the deliberation of his successor, who could determine what portion did not properly belong to the road? Even upon the admissions of the late administration, the department has given the land to the Backbone Company as if the entire line had been constructed. After the assignment in 1881, the late Secretary of the Interior, in the exuberance of his sympathy for Gould and Huntington, urged or consented to a free gift of land for 160 miles of graded road. Faithful public servant! It required no corporation lawyer, nor any other lawyer, to understand this performance. There was another remarkable feature in this transaction. The ex-Secretary, for many years' practice as attorney for the Union Pacific railroad, and long experience in the Department, knew that railroads, to escape State and local taxation, declined to take patents except as they marketed their lands. Did not this action suggest a strong suspicion that the motive must be fear of the next Congress, and that the incoming Administration might not be completely subject to the railroad corporations control?

Adjourned.

The Senate in executive session to-day had under consideration the state of affairs in Central America, and a short message from the Secretary of State, in answer to the Senate resolution of last week, was read, giving a history of Barrios' project for a union of all the Central American States, together with the steps taken by Mexico in view of the threatened complications. All the points in the narrative have already been published. Some discussion took place regarding the propriety of declaring it to be the sense of the Senate that steps should be taken to protect the rights of this country in Nicaragua under the pending canal treaty. The point was made that the Senate had no knowledge of the pendency of a canal treaty since the withdrawal of that sent in at the last session. The Senate adjourned without action.

Secretary Lamar has addressed a letter of instructions to the Commissioner of the General Land Office concerning the disposition of the forfeited land grant of the Texas Pacific Railroad, directing that notice be given by publication for at least 30 days in each of the several districts, that the land has been restored to the public domain, and that the books of the respective offices are open for entry and location of the same at \$2.50 per acre, as provided for under the homestead, pre-emption and other general laws of the United States relating to the disposal of unoffered public lands.

It is understood that General Foster will be retained as Minister to Spain for the present, with the view of conducting negotiations for a more favorable treaty, and that he will probably return to Madrid in the course of a fortnight.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., 16.—Of the defeat of Phil Thompson and the appointment of Miller for Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Mr. Watterson will say in tomorrow morning's *Courier-Journal*: "We are not prepared to accept the defeat of Phil Thompson as a declaration of war by the President upon the friends of revenue reform; nor the appointment of Miller, of West Virginia, as evidence that it is the purpose of the administration to set itself against internal revenue taxes, which pay more than one-third of the expenses of the government, and without which there could be no adequate reduction of Custom-house duties. Personally and locally, we very much regret the decision. But we trust that the apprehensions of those who have a right to a fair interpretation and execution of the internal revenue laws, and have regarded the West Virginian as hostile to them and their interests, will be disappointed. The question is economic not moral, and we shall be slow to believe that it will be treated by the President and his advisers in a narrow spirit. It will be given out, of course, that this is a triumph of Mr. Randall over Mr. Carlisle. That, however, will depend altogether upon future developments. If the President allies himself to Mr. Randall, he will do it openly, and not clandestinely. If he does, it will cause a hopeless split of the party and a new array of political forces. We want no such conflict, and shall do all in our power to avoid it; but if, against the protest of an overwhelming number of democrats, it should come to pass, the advocates of a sound and honest revenue system will not be found unequal to it. In affairs of this sort, it is best to have no concealments. Dangers are oft-times avoided by going out to meet them. The President might have avoided an issue by the familiar expedient of the appointment of a third party, neutral. Or he may consider, and he may be right in so considering, that there is no issue at all. To our mind and imperfect knowledge, we are inclined to think there is, and that it is not encouraging to the friends of reform. But we shall wait with equanimity the course of events."

OMAHA, 16.—At 1 o'clock Sunday morning, 80 masked men went to the house where Thomas Jones and Mrs. Taylor lived, near Spring Ranch, Clay county, took them to a bridge a few rods away and hanged them therefrom. They were supposed to have been implicated in recent robberies in that vicinity, and in the murder of Edwin Roberts a month ago. Four other persons in the house at the time were tied and guarded until daybreak. Three of them were warned to leave the country, as were Wm. and John Jones, under penalty of suffering the same fate.

LEXINGTON, Ky., 16.—Deputy Sheriff Bumgartner, of Rowan County, was killed to-day near Moorehead, Ky., by a mob. The assassination arose from the Tolliver and Martin feud, which has caused the death of five or six men in the past few months.

KANSAS CITY, 16.—The strikers here received orders late this afternoon from Sedalia to raise the freight blockade and trains were started out to-night. The proposed terms have been accepted by the conference committee of strikers and will be ratified by a meeting at Sedalia to-night.

St. Louis, 16.—Vice President Hoxie received telegrams from superintendents of the Missouri Pacific system, stating that all striking employees had resumed work under the terms of the circular issued Sunday; that all kinds of trains are now running, and the strike ended. Dispatches were also received from various points on the Wabash system, to the effect that the strikers had gone back to work, and that business was fully resumed.

Springfield, Ill., 16.—The Wabash strikers have won. This afternoon Superintendent Johann, on behalf of the company, signed an agreement with the men providing that they all return to work after Wednesday, at the wages paid them before the reduction was made, which was this evening ratified by the men at a meeting held to-night, with the proviso that the same is ratified at Moberly and Fort Wayne. The strikers are quite jubilant.

Kansas City, 16.—Fifteen freight trains were sent out on the Missouri Pacific to-night and ten came in. The business of the road will be in the usual shape in a very short time. The engineers who were removed for leaving their posts at the request of the strikers, have been reinstated. The men at Parsons returned to work this afternoon.

SPRINGFIELD, N. M., 16.—A desperate encounter between officers and outlaws occurred here to-day. Last Sunday a noted desperado, named Bill Todd, was arrested here, and lodged in

jail. He immediately telegraphed the fact of his arrest to Dick Rogers, the leader of one of the most desperate gangs of outlaws in the whole southwest. This morning Rogers appeared with a number of his followers; went to the county jail, where Todd was confined, and attempted his rescue. The officers opened fire from within, to which the outlaws replied. A desperate battle ensued. The attacking party finally withdrew, leaving three of their number—Dick Rogers, Ed. King, and "Red River" Tom—dead in the street. The remnant of the party hastily left town to summon reinforcements. They are hourly expected to re-appear and the greatest excitement prevails. The citizens of Springer appealed for protection to the district commander, who promptly ordered the troops stationed at Fort Union to move quickly to the scene of action.

A Santa Fe special at 10 o'clock says: The latest from Springer is to the effect that fifty men have surrounded the jail, determined to mob the officers who have taken refuge inside. The soldiers from Fort Union are momentarily expected, and may prevent further trouble. Company H, second regiment of the territorial militia, at Santa Fe, is in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

Springer, N. M., 12.45 a. m.—The regulars from Fort Union arrived at midnight. Cowboys are flocking into town, but the presence of the troops has produced a wholesome effect on the lawless element, and no further trouble is anticipated.

St. Louis, 16.—Missouri Pacific officials here state that the strikers at Sedalia, Parsons, Denison and Atchison refuse to return to work unless a written guarantee is given not to discharge any of the strikers within a year from date. At other places the men have all returned to work. No action has yet been taken by the railroad officials.

PHILADELPHIA, 17.—Charles Briggs, the wife murderer, was hanged in the corridor of the county prison this morning. Briggs killed his wife July 7th, 1883. He had been on a prolonged spree, when he came home, called his wife down the cellar and cut her throat with a razor. He was arrested almost in the act.

NEW YORK, 17.—Reliable advices state that the Panama revolution is ended.

Commander Kane telegraphs the Secretary of the Navy from Colon that a revolution exists in Panama and Aspinwall, and that he landed marines and hauled the *Galena* alongside of the wharf to protect the property. Carthagen is also besieged.

NEW YORK, 17.—James R. Beard, Secretary of the Central South American Telegraph Company, states that he has received advices to the effect that the authorities of Mexico, San Salvador, and Nicaragua have posted guards at the cable landings of that company, and the following telegram from Secretary of State Bayard, shows that the United States government has determined to protect American property from injury:

Washington, 16.—James A. Scrymser, President of Central and South American Telegraph Co., New York: A telegram was to-day sent by the United States legation to Guatemala, holding that republic responsible for injuries by its authorities or with its connivance to cables or the interests of United States citizens in Central America.

The *Wachusett* now enroute to Launion, will be duly instructed.

At the residence of General Grant this morning, Col. Fred Grant stated that Dr. Douglas was mistaken in believing the General asleep when the doctor left last night. The General dreads being a burden upon any one and closed his eyes and lay quiet until the physician left his house, and he then became restless and lay awake all night. This morning he has had no long sleep, but dozed while sitting in two easy chairs. Mrs. Sartoris will arrive in the steamer *Baltic*.

DOVER, Delaware, 17.—Shortly before noon both houses of the legislature met in separate session and balloted for United States Senator. Attorney General Gray received the vote of every member.

WASHINGTON, 17.—In the Senate, Blair's resolution, authorizing the committee on education and labor to sit during recess, was adopted.

Cullom's resolution, for a select committee to investigate the subject of inter-state commerce, was laid before the Senate, and after a long debate adopted without division. [It provides for a select committee of five Senators to sit during recess, and make a full examination of the regulation of the transportation of freights and passengers between the several States by railroad, and water routes in connection or competition therewith, and report to the Senate next December.]

The Senate then went into executive session.

When the doors re-opened the Senate adjourned.

Colonel Nelson H. Davis, Inspector-General with the rank of Brigadier-General; Lieut. Col. Absalom Baird, Inspector-General with the rank of Colonel; Edward D. Clark, of Mississippi, assistant Secretary of the Interior. Mr. Clark above-named is seriously ill with pneumonia.

The nomination of Joseph S. Miller to be commissioner of internal revenue, vice Walter Evans, sent to the Senate yesterday, was reported favorably from the Senate committee on finances to-day and taken up in executive session. The point was made that Evans had not resigned. This gave rise

to a discussion, during which a message was received from the President renominating Mr. Miller vice Walter Evans to be removed, and withdrawing the nomination of yesterday. During subsequent proceedings it was developed that Evans had told the Secretary of the Treasury he would resign when the Secretary wished. Evans, it was explained, supposed he would be called upon for his resignation, while Secretary Manning understood that the expression of a willingness to resign was a resignation in fact. Republican Senators said there was no intention to antagonize the administration in this regard, and expressed the opinion that the position of Commissioner of Internal Revenue was one that ought to be filled by a man of the President's choice, but they thought injustice had been done Evans in not giving him an opportunity to resign. The nomination was referred to the finance committee.

The discussion of Central American affairs begun yesterday, was then resumed, the pending question being the resolution offered Friday by Edmunds, declaring it to be the sense of the Senate that Barrios, President of Guatemala, should be prevented from carrying out his scheme of annexing neighboring republics. The resolution was criticised as amounting substantially to a declaration of war, and Senator Ingalls proposed an amendment to modify it in this regard. The amendment was lost.

The Senate then adopted the resolution, with only seven negative votes.

Senator Edmunds moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the resolution and the vote on it, but a single objection carried it over, under the rules, for the day.

Secretary Bayard has written a letter to Senator Miller, chairman of the Senate committee on foreign relations, giving him all the information possessed by the State Department concerning Barrios' movement. The first intimation received by the Department in regard to the revolutionary movement was a telegram from Barrios to the President, announcing that he had assumed the title of supreme military chief, and that the minister of foreign relations of Guatemala would soon come to Washington. Later dispatches were received stating that the Republics of San Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica would resist Barrios, and requesting the interference of the United States Government. A telegram from Hall, United States minister to Central America, reported that Honduras was an active party to Barrios' movement. Upon these representations the State department sent a dispatch to Minister Hall at Guatemala, instructing him that this government, while believing the voluntary association of the interests of the Central American States desirable, would not countenance any display of force by any one or more states to coerce others, and that the United States would stand ready to exert its influence to avert a conflict and promote peace. Similar messages were sent to the governments of Nicaragua and San Salvador, and like verbal assurances were given the minister of Costa Rica in respect to his government. No communication had been received from or sent to the government of Honduras. The Mexican minister here conferred with Secretary Bayard as to the course taken by Mexico, and was informed that this Government would use all its moral influence and lend its good offices to prevent the destruction of the autonomy of the Central American States, and to this end would be glad to have the co-operation of Mexico. Later, but unofficial, details state that on the 10th inst. the Guatemalan expeditionary movement against San Salvador was stopped, and Barrios asked President Talvidar to send two commissioners to arrange a settlement. Secretary Bayard further states that Senor Batres, Minister of San Salvador at this Capital, has been deprived of his mission because of his association with the movement of Barrios, and a new minister will soon be sent here. The orders given naval vessels for the protection of American interests in Central America are given in detail, and the Secretary expresses the opinion that no obligation to interfere rests upon this Government under any treaties with the States involved. The Department has no intimation that any European power has interfered or contemplates interference in the presence of difficulties in Central America. In conclusion Mr. Bayard says: "This government cannot countenance any measures subversive of the free autonomy of any of the several States, and believing the moral influence and good offices of the United States can be made a potential agency in the preservation of peace, he is unable to suggest any action of the Senate. The dispatch from the President of San Salvador, alluded to in Mr. Bayard's letter, states that Barrios is trying to force a Central American union with the avowed purpose of annulling the canal treaty with Nicaragua."

Secretary Whitney to-day sent a dispatch to Commander Mahan of the *Wachusett* at Panama, informing him that hostilities are likely to take place between some of the Central American States and Barrios, which will endanger the lives and property of citizens of the United States and directing him to proceed with his vessel to La Union and La Libertad and other points on the Central American coast to protect American interests. The Secretary also directs Commander Mahan to protect against any attempt to cut the cables or interfere with their use, and

to take precautions to protect the health of his officers and men from disease which would render it necessary for the vessel to leave that coast.

The first State reception given by President Cleveland was given to-night to the diplomatic corps, the judiciary, army and navy and the Senate and House of Representatives. It was one of the most brilliant affairs of the kind ever held in the White House. The President was assisted by Miss Cleveland, Mrs. Hoyt, Miss Bayard, Mrs. Manning, Mrs. Endicott, Mrs. Whitney, Mrs. Vilas and Mrs. Lament. He received his guests in the Blue Room. All the members of the Cabinet, except Attorney-General Garland, were present. Mr. Bayard presented the members of the diplomatic corps.

Gen. Hatch telegraphs that Conch still threatens to invade Indian Territory, but his strength will not exceed 600, should he attempt it.

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DANVILLE, Ills., 17.—Five hundred miners employed by the Ellsworth Coal Company, struck to-day for the restoration of the price of mining to 80 cents per ton, from which it was reduced to 70 cents, Feb. 2nd. It was also decided to remain out until the demand of the miners of the same company at Mount Olive and Staunton, were acceded to. One thousand miners employed by the George Creek Coal and Coke Co., will strike to-morrow.

DENVER, 17.—The situation at Springer, New Mexico, is unchanged since midnight. A large number of cowboys still remain in town, some of whom are very defiant. The troops will remain until quiet is fully restored.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, 17.—The Supreme Court to-day, the entire bench concurring, rendered an opinion affirming the constitutionality of the prohibition law. It sustains the validity of the injunctions to abate nuisances which exist as saloons, and in every particular maintains the provisions of the act as it stands to-day on the statute books of the State.

NEW ORLEANS, 17.—The general railroad passenger agents elected the following officers: President, C. A. Taylor; Vice-President, John N. Abbott; General Passenger Agent of the New York, Lake Erie and Western; Secretary, A. J. Smith, of Vicksburg. The election of Mr. Abbott was by acclamation, he being one of the oldest members.

ALBANY, N. Y., 17.—At the Woman's Suffrage Society meeting to-night, Kate Stoneman (sister of Governor Stoneman of California) and others denounced Governor Pierce of Dakota for vetoing the woman's suffrage act passed by the Legislature of that Territory. The society sent a dispatch to President Cleveland, asking Pierce's removal.

MONTREAL, 17.—Mrs. Domingo M. Monjo, wife of President Monjo of the Toledo and Ann Arbor railroad, appeared in the court of Queen's Bench yesterday as a petitioner for a writ of habeas corpus to compel Father Liargo of the Ville Marie Refuge, to show cause why her three children, in his possession, should not be returned to her. Mrs. Monjo told a story, alleging that her three children and her old grandmother were kidnapped by her husband and his brother from her residence in New York in March, 1884, and that from that time until yesterday she had not seen them. Her story of how she traced the children to Brooklyn and thence to Toledo, Toronto and Montreal was very affecting. The children complained that they have for the last year been only half-nourished and have suffered from want of clothing.

BRADDOCK, Pa., 17.—A barrel of gasoline exploded in the cellar of McCullough's saloon, on Railroad street, to-night, fatally burning James McCullough, proprietor, and seriously burning three other men, whose names could not be ascertained. Smoke was seen issuing from the cellar, and McCullough went down with a lamp to investigate the cause, when an explosion took place. The saloon was crowded at the time, and the flames enveloping the building almost instantly, there was barely time to escape. Several persons had their clothing burned, and, as stated, three were seriously injured. McCullough was rescued with difficulty, but was so terribly burned that he cannot recover. The building, together with the adjoining saloon of Mrs. Rodgers, was entirely consumed. Loss, \$12,000.

NEW YORK, 18.—General Grant went to sleep between 10 and 11 last night, after a hypodermic injection of morphine. He slept well during the night and only woke twice. He is feeling better after last night's rest. Mrs. Sartoris is expected to arrive to-morrow.

PETERSBURG, 18.—There was a heavy snow storm throughout Virginia and North Carolina last night, from six to ten inches fell.

FOREIGN.

PARIS, 16.—Telegrams from Saigon report the revolt in Cochinchina spreading. A plot has been discovered to set fire to Saigon, in order to give opportunity for the irruption of three thousand Anamites. The Anamites have captured Ocmen, seven miles from Saigon, massacring the European residents and burying alive the native