

BY TELEGRAPH.

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AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 21.—The House mining committee to-day, on motion of Representative Berry, instructed their chairman, Mr. Stevenson, of Illinois, to take advantage of the first possible opportunity to obtain action on the debris bill recently reported from the committee and now on the House calendar. He is to exercise his own judgment as to the best means of bringing it up for consideration, and will endeavor to have it made a special order for some particular day, either by unanimous consent or, failing in this, by means of a motion to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution making it a special order. Such motions in behalf of committees being admissible on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

In the Senate to-day, Windom, from the committee on railroads, reported with amendments the bill extending the time for the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad. The bill as amended extends the time given the company for the completion of its main line and branch six years from the passage of the act, subject to the following conditions:

First—Actual settlers on the agricultural lands embraced in the grant to the company, shall be entitled to purchase from the company one quarter section, or a legal sub-division thereof, on which they shall have settled, at the price of \$2.50 per acre. All lands, except by way of mortgage to and for the construction of the road, shall be subject to taxation according to the laws of the State or Territory within which they may be situated.

Second—The company are required, within one year after the passage of the bill, to commence the work of constructing its main line between Portland, Oregon, and a point as far east as Walla Walla, Washington Territory, and to complete, equip and put in operation the entire main line between these two points within four years from the time of the commencement of work.

Third—The right of way of the company where it passes through any cañon, pass, etc., anywhere on its line, shall not prevent any other railroad company from the use and occupancy of the passes in common with the Northern Pacific road.

General Milles, before the House committee on Pacific railroads, favored an extension of time to the Northern Pacific Railroad on the ground that the road would prove of great value to the government as a military highway. Public policy should encourage its completion.

Davis, of Illinois, introduced a bill in the Senate to-day authorizing the President to appoint Major Reno to the first vacancy in his former rank and grade.

The Senate has confirmed the appointment of Charles H. Lord postmaster at Tucson, Arizona.

NEW YORK, 21.—A fatal accident occurred at Madison Square Garden to-night causing intense excitement. About 800 people were attending the Hahnemann Hospital fair in the building when, at 9.30 o'clock, half the front facing on Madison Avenue gave way, falling outwards, part of the roof also falling in with a crash. It is not known how many were killed, but a number were injured. Three of the killed and wounded are already found. Several persons on the sidewalk were covered. Mrs. W. A. Ogden Hegeman, a prominent manager of the fair was the first person taken from the debris. She was supposed to be dead, but some sign of life being discovered she was taken to Bellevue Hospital. Wm. Tilton, of New York, had a leg broken; Mrs. Jas. Smith, of Flushing, an arm broken and other injuries. Part of the building which fell was mainly occupied as an art gallery. The pictures were loaned and insured for \$150,000 against fire alone; but as far as known not against accidents. It is likely the pictures are so much injured as to be almost worthless.

The cause of the accident is supposed to be the pressure of the floor of the dancing hall and art gallery upon the wall which supported them. Both these rooms were filled with people at an early hour this evening. Suddenly it was noticed that the floor of the art gallery was cracking, and Albert McKay, manager of the fair, was summoned. He mounted the stairs leading to the art gallery and noticed that the room was filled with ladies and gen-

tleman. Detective Tilley, who had been employed to watch the valuable pictures in the room, informed him that the walls were cracking in some places, and that there was danger of the floor giving way. McKay sent a man to turn off the gas in that part of the building, and called out to the persons near him to leave the gallery as quickly as possible. His manner of speaking caused most of the persons in the room to step out on a broad landing which overlooked the main part of the garden. The dancing hall on the same floor was still full of people. Before they could be warned of the approaching danger, a succession of loud reports were heard and the front wall suddenly fell out into the street, a large part of the roof, which had been supported by the wall immediately fell in upon the heads of the frightened dancers, burying many of them out of sight. Screams and groans were heard on every side and a panic followed.

A moment after the accident the floor of the dancing room settled and there was a general stampede out upon the landing and down the staircase to the main part of the garden. The fire department was summoned and calls were sent to the Bellevue and New York hospitals.

A number of ambulances in charge of surgeons were promptly on hand. A woman and two or three men, whose names could not be ascertained, were carried out dead. Wm. H. Tilleston, of East 38th street, was dragged from underneath a part of the roof having both legs and an arm broken; his injuries are believed to be fatal. James Flushing, Long Island, was also found suffering from severe bruises. Two or three men and several women, who were seriously injured, were taken away by their friends. The firemen are still at work on the ruins. It is believed all the wounded are removed, but it is feared that some more lifeless bodies are still beneath the debris.

The loss by the accident, apart from the loss to life, is very great. The loss on the building is estimated from \$25,000 to \$40,000. The building is owned by Wm. H. Vanderbilt and was insured against fire.

CHICAGO, 21.—The *Tribune's* Mackinaw, Mich., special says: A report just received states that seven men, who left point St. Ignace in a sail boat to go up the north shore, were all drowned during the gale on Monday. Their bodies are not yet discovered. Vessel men say it was the heaviest gale ever witnessed here.

MOBERLY, Mo., 21.—Forty armed men last night took from jail Henry Mitchell, Dick Yaney and Alfred Caton (colored), charged with murdering another negro, and hung them to the trestle work. Caton was released after he had expressed a willingness to confess.

CHICAGO, 22.—An Ottawa special says: Fully one-half of the city of Hull is in ruins, the area of ground burned being a mile long and 400 yards wide. The heat is intense and the smoke is so dense that the city is almost shrouded in darkness. The fire raged from half past 3 o'clock until 7, when the wind fortunately changed and it was got under control. It is estimated that between 700 and 800 houses are destroyed and over 4,000 people are homeless. Several lives are known to be lost, whilst reports are current that at least a dozen have perished. It is known positively that a woman named Latramonill was burned, also a man named Ouillette. The woman was confined yesterday and was unable to leave the house. Numerous accidents have occurred. In numerous cases occupants saved their furniture which they piled in the streets. Animals of all kinds perished. The property destroyed was mainly occupied by laborers and there is very little insurance. Steps have been taken to relieve the distress. Hand-some contributions have already been raised, and to-morrow night the city councils of Hull and Ottawa will meet to take action in the matter. His Excellency the Governor-General telegraphed to the mayor of Hull signifying his willingness to assist in any movement for the relief of the homeless.

The *Times* Santa Fe special says: "After the fight of the 7th instant in Ebbello Cañon, in the San Andre mountains; General Hatch, in pursuance of his plan, concentrated his forces from all directions with orders to report to him on the 12th at Mesalero agency. The movement was successful, and on the 12th inst., Hatch's corps, reinforced by four companies of the Tenth Cavalry, under command of General

Grierson, surrounded the agency making prisoners of the Mesalero Apaches numbering about 460 warriors. The rest, consisting of old men, women and children, and over 200 mules and horses were captured, which were at once transferred into the government pack train. Much stolen stock was also found which was ordered by Hatch returned to the owners on identification. The disarming of the Indians then at once took place when 30 of them made a break. Fourteen of the party were killed by the troops in the attempt. Sixteen Apaches got away. None of them would have escaped had it not been for the women and children being in the way. On the 13th one of the escaped warriors came in and gave himself up, stating that when they were disarmed and dismounted they expected to be hung. Immediately after this occurrence Hatch placed the Indians under a strong guard and dispatched the rest of his command after the escaped Mescaleros and the bands of Mescaleros and Warm Springs Apaches which were supposed to be in the Sacramento and Guadalupe Mountains. Gen. Grierson and command moved on the east side of the mountains. Maj. Morrow and his battalion with which Gen. Hatch has his headquarters, taking the west side. Capt. Carroll's battalion, now commanded by Lieut. Lusack and Capt. Hooker's battalion, moving over the mountain trails due south. After a March of 85 miles in 36 hours with little or no water, Major Morrow's command, on the 17th, struck a small party of hostiles in Dog Cañon, between the Sacramento and Guadalupe mountains, routing them with the loss of three left dead, and capturing 30 head of stock. This is the latest information from the command. From Mesalero Agency, it is reported that more Mescaleros are coming. Of the soldiers wounded in the fight of the 7th, four have died so far, and there are doubts of Captain Carroll's recovery. Further news from Hatch's expeditions is hourly expected.

SAN FRANCISCO, 22.—A heavy south-east storm has prevailed for the last 48 hours, unprecedented at this time of the year. Advices from the northern portion of the State are to the effect that rain is falling heavily in the valleys and foot-hills, while in the mountains it is snowing or raining, according to the elevation, and the snow melting rapidly. This state of affairs prevails over the entire water shed drained by the Sacramento River and its tributaries, and as a consequence the creeks and rivers are running bank full, in some places flooding the adjacent lands, and if the rain continues and extends to the high Sierra, danger of a general flood in Sacramento Valley will be imminent. As yet no extensive damage is reported.

MADISON, Ind., 22.—Graham Orinby's team became fractious while being driven upon the ferry flat at Wickliffe Landing, on the Kentucky River yesterday, and his mother, sister and Miss Miller and the horses were plunged into the river and drowned. The young man who was on his way to be married, narrowly escaped death.

WEST POINT, 22.—Lewis Simpson, a colored friend of Whittaker, testified he had laughed at Whittaker for suggesting that the note of warning should be shown to the Commandant. Witness thought Whittaker was unjustly treated; thought the officers and cadets were prejudiced, but never saw anything wrong on the part of the officers.

Mitchell (colored) testified he had heard of the three colored cadets threatening to fix Whittaker. The examination of the entire corps of cadets is finished.

SAN FRANCISCO, 22.—The Chamber of Commerce at a quarterly meeting adopted a resolution that in the opinion of this Chamber, the bill now before the foreign and coastwise commerce committee of Congress, authorizing the Postmaster General to contract for carrying the United States mails in American steamers of not less than 1,000 tons should be so amended that the tonnage should only apply to vessels plying between the United States and ports in Europe, Asia and Africa, leaving it to the discretion of the Postmaster General to fix the tonnage of those plying to other parts.

The following resolution relating to the letter conveyance of Wells, Fargo & Co., was referred by the board of trustees to a general meeting of the Chamber and adopted:

Resolved, That the Chamber of Commerce of the city of San Francisco, respectfully ask that Wells, Fargo & Co. be permitted to continue

their Government stamp letter service as heretofore.

A memorial to Congress was also adopted setting forth the defenseless condition of the harbor and Mare Island navy yard, chiefly on account of a lack of heavy rifled guns, and asking that from forty to fifty heavy modern rifles be placed in position, and at least two turreted ironclads armed with similar ordnance be maintained in the harbor.

The particulars of the recent snow slide at the Mineral King mine, by which the boarding house was crushed and many men reported killed, show that no lives were lost, though all the occupants of the house were either injured or frost bitten.

The latest reports from the mountains on the line of the Central Pacific say it is snowing and blowing hard and the trains are blocked.

NORWICH, 22.—Tidings of the terrible work of fires in the swamp region of North Carolina last week have reached here. Life and property were destroyed and houses and woods devastated. Zachariah Owens engaged in getting shingles from the swamps on Alligator River lived there in a house surrounded by woods. On Saturday he left home on business, but had not gone far before he saw the flames approaching so rapidly as to imperil his house and family, and hastened back to save them. He hurried his wife and three little children away, hoping to reach the main road beyond danger. They were all overtaken by the flames in the swamp, midway between home and a place of safety, and the entire family burned to death. They were found next day by the neighbors, the mother clasping the infant in her arms, and the father and the other two children lying near at hand.

South Shaftsbury, Vt., 22.—The whole establishment of the Eagle Square Company, except the large building, was destroyed by fire to-night. The company manufactured sash, doors, blinds, furniture, etc. The loss on the buildings and contents will exceed \$100,000, and the loss on lumber \$25,000; insurance, \$35,000.

Richmond, Va., 22.—A fire to-night burned a storage building on Cary Street, and partially destroyed Carrington & Co's tobacco warehouse; loss heavy.

New York, 22.—The forest fire has swept away nearly the whole north portion of the town of Bookhaven, Long Island. Loss \$30,000.

NEW YORK, 22.—The bark *Seabreeze*, from Rotterdam, brings the captain and crew of the abandoned brig *Annie Wharton*. She reports the captain and first mate of the brig *D. Artagnon* washed overboard, and an unknown bark sunk during a hard snow squall, the wind preventing assistance.

ATLANTA, 22.—The republican convention was in great disorder all day. Several exciting scenes occurred and the same confusion as yesterday continued. The Chair appointed a committee to nominate delegates to Chicago, in spite of the protests of the Grant men. While the committee was out the colored leaders raised an issue that they had not been accorded their rights in the party, and carried a resolution that three-fourths of the Chicago delegation be colored, and that the same proportion be observed in the republican patronage in Georgia. The committee report did not agree with their resolution and it was therefore tabled until to-morrow, when all but five men will be stricken from the delegation. Grant may get some votes, but the Sherman and Blaine men have control of the convention.

ALBANY, 22.—The reform league and anti-third term republicans met this morning and elected Matthew Hale chairman and appointed committees. The chairman of the committee on resolutions, Horace White, reported resolutions opposing "the machine" and opposing a third term; adopted. The question of committing the conference against Grant was tabled, 20 to 11. It was then resolved to send a delegation to St. Louis. Several said they would not vote for Grant if nominated, but would not bring the matter before the conference.

HARTFORD, Conn., 22.—The prohibitionist convention met in this city to-day. Seventy-five delegates were present. Rev. E. B. Hillard was elected president. A full State ticket was nominated. Presidential electors and delegates to the national prohibitory convention at Cleveland were also elected. Resolutions were adopted criticizing the attitude of the democratic and republican parties and of Governor Andrews toward the temperance party.

St. LOUIS, 22.—The *Post-Dispatch*

special from Kansas City says: Adverses from Western Kansas report the drought and unfavorable weather have totally destroyed the wheat crop west of Salina and that there will be a partial failure of the crop for a hundred miles north and south of Topeka. Many farmers of the western part of the State are suffering and appealing to the executive office for help.

UTICA, 22.—A culvert in the Erie Canal gave way this morning and the water poured out doing considerable damage to the works besides submerging the cellars and floors of thirty to forty houses. No lives lost.

WASHINGTON, 22.—The Senate to-day confirmed the appointments for Indian agents of Wm. H. Berry, of Colorado, for Los Pinos agency; Col. J. C. Tiffany, of New York, San Carlos agency.

DENVER, 22.—The Republican State Central Committee met to-day and called a convention to elect delegates to Chicago to meet in this city May 25th.

SAN FRANCISCO, 23.—A Los Angeles despatch says: Logle, the defaulting tax collector from Georgia, whose case has been before the superior and supreme courts for several weeks on *habeas corpus*, committed suicide in his cell last night by shooting himself in the presence of the guard and Mr. Collier, the agent of the State of Georgia. How he procured the weapon is unknown.

The Supreme Court to-day, granted Kearney a writ of *habeas corpus*, returnable before the superior court of San Francisco.

A Silver City, New Mexico, dispatch says: Two hundred Mescaleros have left Fort Stanton reservation to join Victoria's band.

A Portland dispatch says: The State republican convention convened at 11 a. m. to-day at the Town Hall, and was called to order by David Freeman, Chairman of the State Central Committee. J. C. Peebles, of Marion County, was elected temporary chairman. A committee on credentials, consisting of one delegate from each county was appointed. Recess was taken until 1 p. m.

At 1 p. m. the republican convention reassembled, and with but few proxies. The delegates are the best men of the republican party of the State. There is a large number of prominent republicans from different portions of the State in attendance. An unusual degree of interest is manifested, although there is every reason to predict harmonious action.

NEW YORK, 23.—Three workmen were fatally injured by a falling scaffold on 8th Street.

About 80 per cent. of the art collection in Madison Square Garden has been recovered not much damaged. Only 10 or 12 pictures are entirely destroyed. Four victims in all have died.

Private information from Atlanta says: Sherman, 12; Blaine, 9; Grant, 1, is the report of the committee on delegates to Chicago.

Chicago, 23.—The *Journal's* Washington special says: Blaine is much annoyed at the resolution of the Virginia convention asking him to accept the Vice-Presidency. He characterizes the request as ridiculous. The reason is believed to be that Gorham and Cameron drafted the resolutions.

The Blaine club claims six Ohio congressional districts for Blaine.

The *Journal's* interview with Hendricks drew from him the assertion that he would, under no circumstances, accept the nomination for the Vice-Presidency.

ATLANTA, Ga., 23.—The republican convention was all morning discussing the appointment of delegates to Chicago. It is evident that Blaine will get a majority of the delegation with six or eight votes for Sherman. Grant may have two votes. The convention is noisy and excited.

WASHINGTON, 23.—The so-called immediate deficiency bill, which contains the appropriation of \$600,000 for marshals and their special deputies, and \$7,600 for the California election deputy marshals, advanced a long step to-day towards enactment; for the House of Representatives this afternoon concurred in most of the Senate amendments, and the few remaining points of difference will be speedily adjusted by a committee of conference. All the Pacific Coast items have now been agreed to by both Houses and are therefore fixed in the bill. They are as follows:

For special deputy marshals of elections \$7,600; for the completion of the first-class fog signal south of the Farallone Island, \$7,000.

Senator Slater to-day presented a