

## BY TELEGRAPH.

### CONGRESSIONAL.

#### SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 4.—The following bills were introduced:

By Hartzell, of Illinois, to substitute greenbacks for the issue of the national banking association, to pay the full amount for all the bonds deposited by them in the treasury, in accordance with the terms of the contract expressed on the face of said bonds, the bonds so redeemed to be cancelled.

By Schleicher, for the construction of a railroad from San Antonio to Eagle Pass, Texas; also to ascertain the losses sustained by citizens of Texas by reason of Mexican depredations.

By Luttrell, for the relief of certain settlers in the State of California; also to correct the boundaries of certain lands in California.

Tucker, from the committee on ways and means, reported back the bill remitting the tax upon alcohol used by scientific universities and colleges constituted by any State or Territory, in preserving specimens; passed.

Frye, from the judiciary committee, reported back the bill prescribing an oath of office which eliminates from the statutes the law which prescribes the taking of the test iron-clad oath; passed.

Also a bill repealing section 820 of the Revised Statutes, which provides for the disqualification of any juror who has, without duress or coercion, taken up arms in defense of any insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or who has given aid or comfort thereto; passed.

Egan, chairman of the committee on commerce, reported back the joint resolution directing the Secretary of War to make such preliminary examination of the head waters of the St. Croix, Chippewa and Wisconsin rivers as may determine the extent and practicability of reservoirs on the same. Passed.

Durham offered a concurrent resolution that when the House adjourns on the 17th, it be to meet on January 10th. Referred.

By Baker of Indiana, a joint resolution proposing a constitutional amendment prohibiting the payment of any claims for damage growing out of the taking up or destruction of property during the rebellion.

By Ellsworth, for general amnesty.

Schleicher, chairman of the railroad committee, reported a resolution referring to the committee on railways all matters regarding river navigation, which had been improperly referred to the committee on commerce.

The Speaker ruled that the committee had no authority to repeal such a resolution, and a long discussion ensued, without action. Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 6.—During the morning hour a number of petitions were presented.

Burnside submitted a resolution calling upon the President to transmit to the Senate the correspondence had with our late minister to France in regard to the Franco-Prussian war; also the correspondence on the same subject with our ministers to England and Germany; agreed to.

Matthews submitted a concurrent resolution reciting various acts of Congress authorizing the issue of bonds, &c., and declaring that all bonds of the United States, under said acts, are payable, principal and interest, at the option of the Government of the United States, in silver dollars of 412½ grains standard silver, and such payment is not in violation of public faith or right of public creditors. Laid on the table and ordered printed.

Allison, who has charge of the Heise bill to authorize the free coinage of the standard silver dollar, etc., to restore its legal tender character, moved to make it the special order for Monday next after the expiration of the morning hour, and be continued from day to day until disposed of.

After a long discussion, Allison changed his motion so as to take the bill up on Tuesday next, instead of Monday.

Morrill moved to amend so as to make it a special order for January 11th; rejected—yeas 17, nays 40.

The motion of Allison was then agreed to—yeas 41, nays 18.

WASHINGTON, 6.—Matthews submitted the following concurrent

resolution in regard to the payment of bonds in silver, and, at his request, it was ordered to lie on the table and be printed:

Whereas, By an act entitled an act to strengthen the public credit, approved March 18, 1869, it was provided and declared that the faith of the United States was thereby solemnly pledged to the payment in coin or its equivalent of all interest-bearing obligations of the United States, except in cases where the law authorized the issue of such obligations had expressly provided that the same might be paid in lawful money or other currency than gold and silver; and,

Whereas, All bonds of the United States, authorized by the act entitled an act to authorize the refunding of the national debt, approved July 14, 1870, by the terms of said act were declared redeemable in coin of the then present standard value, bearing interest payable semi-annually in such coin; and,

Whereas, All bonds of the United States authorized under the act entitled an act to provide for the resumption of specie payments, approved January 14, 1875, are required to be descriptive of bonds of the United States, described in said act of Congress, approved July 14, 1870, and entitled an act to authorize the refunding of the national debt; and,

Whereas, At the date of the passage of said act last aforesaid, the coin of the United States of the standard value of that date included silver dollars of the weight of 412½ grains each, as declared by the act approved July 18, 1837, entitled an act supplementary to an act entitled an act establishing a mint and regulating the coins of the United States, to be legal tender of payment according to their nominal value, for any sums whatever;

Therefore, Be it resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives concurring therein, that all bonds of the United States issued or authorized to be issued under said acts of Congress, herein before recited, are payable, principal and interest, at the option of the Government of the United States, in silver dollars of the coinage of the United States containing 412½ grains each, of standard silver, and that to restore to its coinage such silver coins as legal tender in payment of said bonds, principal and interest, is not in violation of the public faith, nor derogative of the rights of the public creditor.

Chaffee called up his resolution, calling upon the President to inform the Senate what legal impediments, if any exist, prevent him from executing the laws regarding the Union Pacific Railroad Company and its branches, and modified the same so as to allege that the branches of the Union Pacific are the Kansas Pacific, Denver Pacific, Central Pacific of California, the Burlington and Missouri River, and the Sioux City branch, instead of declaring positively that they are the branches.

After a brief discussion, the question was taken on the substitution for the above resolution, submitted November 30th, by Paddock, the preamble of which omitted the names of the roads said to be the branch roads of the Union Pacific, and it was rejected, without the roll call.

During the debate, Paddock stated that this whole question of what constituted a branch road was now before the courts, and the Senate should not interfere. He argued that the whole scope of his resolution was similar to Chaffee's, except that it omitted this legal question of what were branch roads.

Thurman said that unless the government forces the Union Pacific to pro rate with the Kansas Pacific, it would never get a dollar of money due by the Kansas Pacific, for that company could not find money to pay its taxes to the government, unless the Union Pacific should pro rate with it and do it justice.

The preamble and resolution of Chaffee were then agreed to without division.

The Senate then went into executive session, and soon after adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 7.—Sargent reported with an amendment, the House bill for the relief of the sufferers by the wreck of the United States steamer *Huron*. The amendment provides for the payment to the heirs of the lost, twelve months' sea pay; to the heirs of Captain Guthrie, of the life saving service, one year's pay, and to the heirs of those belonging to the wrecking

steamer *B. & J. Baker*, lost in attempting to save those on the *Huron*, \$100 each. The amendment was agreed to and the bill passed.

At the expiration of the morning hour, Mitchell called up the bill recently introduced by him to extend the term for the construction and completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad, for the purpose of having it referred to the committee on railroads, and in explanation of the bill he spoke at considerable length.

Conkling presented a petition of Austin Packard and others of New York, in favor of the appointment of a commission to communicate with other nations, with the view of having a railroad built across the continent of Africa; referred.

Anthony reported, without amendment, the Senate resolution to print 3,000 extra copies of the President's message and reports of departments; agreed to.

Teller submitted a resolution, citing the agreement entered into between the United States and a confederate band of Ute Indians, for the cession of certain lands occupied by them to government, and calling upon the President to inform the Senate whether the payments provided for have been made, and whether the lands ceded have been occupied by citizens; laid on the table. Also, a resolution calling upon the President to inform the Senate as to the cost of the late war with the Sioux Indians, casualties of rank and file among the troops, &c.; agreed to.

The House resolution to adjourn for the holiday recess from December 15, to January 10, was agreed to.

WASHINGTON, 7.—Edmunds called up the resolution submitted by him on the 26th of November, directing the Attorney General to communicate to the Senate, as may be convenient, a list of all criminal prosecutions commenced in courts of the United States in the district of South Carolina since the 1st of January, 1876, for offences against the life, property, civil rights, or the right of suffrage of any person, with the names of the alleged offenders and a statement of the disposition of such prosecution and the dates thereof; agreed to.

Matthews called up his concurrent resolution regarding the payment of principal and interest of government bonds in silver coin, and after it had been read, he said it was his intention to submit some remarks this afternoon before moving for its reference to the committee on finance. At the request of several senators he would allow it to lie over until Monday, and then call it up.

WASHINGTON, 10.—During the morning hour, a resolution, reported by Dorsey, instructing the committee on the District of Columbia to inquire and report by bill or otherwise the proper form of government for the District, was agreed to.

A number of bills were introduced and referred, among them by Plumb, to declare certain lands heretofore granted railroad companies forfeited, and to open the same for settlement.

By Johnson, amendatory of a supplementary act to incorporate the Texas Pacific Railroad and to aid its construction.

At the expiration of the morning hour, Wadleigh, chairman of the committee on privileges and elections, called up the resolution reported from that committee, last week, declaring J. B. Eustis entitled to his seat as senator from Louisiana.

Ingalls, who signed the minority report, spoke in opposition to the resolution, claiming that the papers presented by Eustis were defective.

After a brief discussion the resolution of Wadleigh was agreed to—yeas 49, nays 8.

#### HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 5.—Wilson offered a resolution for an adjournment from the 15th of December until the 10th of January. Referred.

The question whether business referring to internal improvements should be considered by the committee on commerce or the committee on railroads, after further discussion, was referred to the committee on rules.

Townsend, of Illinois, from the committee on patents, reported a bill to repeal the existing statutes for the renewal of patents, and declaring it unlawful hereafter for the

commissioner of patents to renew or extend any patent for any design whatever. He stated the object of the bill was to take away from the statute book a law which was dead and inoperative, the commissioner of patents not having now the power to make renewals. After some discussion the bill was passed.

Resolutions allowing clerks to certain committees and for the extra payment of discharged employees who had been borne on the soldiers' roll were adopted.

Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 6.—The majority and minority reports were made from the committee on elections in the Colorado case; ordered printed. The post route bill was passed. Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 7.—The following bills were introduced and referred:

By Stephens, amendatory to the act incorporating the Texas Pacific Railroad Co.

By Cox, of N. Y., to organize a life saving service.

A resolution in regard to putting the records and files of the House in a place of safety against fire, was adopted.

Wood, chairman of the ways and means committee, reported a concurrent resolution for the adjournment of Congress for the Christmas holidays, from the 15th of December until January 7th.

Batler suggested that the House adjourn until the 10th of January, because the 8th was a good, old democratic holiday anniversary of Jackson's victory at New Orleans, and the House would probably adjourn over that day at any rate.

Wood replied if his friend would follow all the democratic precedents, he would have no objections to the extension.

The resolution, amended as suggested, passed.

The House then went into committee of the whole, Burchard, of Illinois, in the chair, on the private calendar.

The Senate then, at 2.45, went into executive session, and when the doors re-opened, adjourned until Monday.

WASHINGTON, 7.—At 3 o'clock the committee rose and reported a number of private bills favorably to the House and they were passed.

On motion of Knott the Senate amendment to the bill for the relief of the sufferers by the wreck of the *Huron* was concurred in.

Adjourned till Monday.

WASHINGTON, 10.

Bill were introduced as follows:

By Willis, for securing and extending the export trade of the United States; also simplifying the export laws, empowering and collecting the duties on imports, removing all ambiguities, reducing the rates on imported merchandise, restoring the duty on tea and coffee, and enlarging the free list.

By Thompson, directing the Secretary of the Interior to institute proceedings to test and perfect certain lands alleged to have been conditionally granted to the Northern Pacific Railroad.

On the question of the distribution of the President's annual message, an important discussion was started by Hewitt, of N. Y., specially directing the attention of the committee on foreign affairs to the affairs on the Rio Grande, and recommending the consideration of such measures as will prevent the possibility of a war and continue the maintenance of peace between the United States and Mexico.

After debate Hewitt's resolution was adopted.

#### AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 4.—Blaine arrived this afternoon in poor health, and is described by a fellow traveler as looking like a disappointed, broken man, his manner indicating pain and his talk a bitterness of spirit. He intends to be present at the Thursday session of the Senate.

The *Evening Star*, to-day, celebrated its twenty-fifth birthday, and in connection with a self-congratulatory editorial, publishes an obituary list, showing that not less than 234 journals have been started in the District of Columbia, the *Star* being the 118th on the list, and that there are only thirteen survivors of all kinds, daily, weekly and semi-occasionally. The *Republican*, which started in 1862, is the only daily Washington journal, excepting the *Star*, that can boast a longer existence than nine years, and the *Sunday Chronicle* is the

only weekly which dates back so far as 1860. Washington seems therefore, justly entitled to its reputation of being the most unhealthy city in the United States for journalistic enterprises.

CHICAGO, 4.—This afternoon, the suit of the United States against Jacob Rehm for the recovery of a \$1,000,000 on account of revenue frauds as distiller was called up before Judges Drummond and Blodgett in the United States circuit court. Instructions were read from Attorney-General Devens and the Secretary of the Treasury directing District Attorney Bangs to submit to the court evidence of either side whether the government counsel had made such arrangement with Rehm's counsel as to impose upon government the duty as a matter of honor and good faith of dismissing the pending prosecutions. If the court so advises, after hearing the evidence, then the case shall be dismissed. On this basis considerable evidence was taken, which went to show that the arrangement had been made so that Rehm should be relieved from civil liability, also in conclusion of the evidence both sides presented their printed arguments, and the court took the matter under advisement. E. A. Storrs appeared for government, and Messrs. Lawrence & Campbell for Rehm.

SIDNEY, Neb., 4.—A fire, last night, destroyed the auction room of Cummings & Simpson, Star Hotel, Lane's livery stable, and several dwellings. The loss is estimated at \$25,000, insurance \$15,000. D. E. Simpson, one of the partners in the auction room, was burned to death while attempting to remove the property from the building.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., 4.—At the Lost Creek Station, on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad this afternoon, a coal train ran off the track, and badly wrecked twenty cars, tore down the telegraph lines, completely demolished the passenger station and did considerable damage to the freight depot and store house. Several persons were injured; none fatally.

NEW ORLEANS, 4.—Last night, at the Myrtle Grove Plantation, below this city, seven negroes attempted to cross the river in an old skiff. When about midway, the planks in the canoe parted and she sunk, resulting in the drowning of five.

GALESTON, 4.—The schooner *Two Sisters*, from Mermentau, for Galveston, loaded with cotton, lumber and oranges, was wrecked of this port yesterday. Three lives were lost. A portion of the cargo was washed ashore and saved.

SAN FRANCISCO, 4.—A dispatch from Portland says General Howard has approved the findings of the court of inquiry in the case of Captain David Perry, charged by the citizens of Idaho with neglecting to succor a band of volunteers when pressed by Indians in the Cottonwood fight. The findings are to the effect that Perry could not know the character of the volunteers until they were attacked; that a delay of about ten minutes occurred after the attack before sending troops to their relief; that the volunteers received no additional injury on account of the delay. No testimony was elicited reflecting upon the courage of Captain Perry, and the findings exonerate him from having made improper delay under the circumstances, being nearly surrounded by hostile Indians.

NEW YORK, 5.—The *Herald's* London correspondent, in Paris, telegraphs, in reference to the rumor recently published in regard to the prospective appointment to missions to Berlin or London, that Grant assured him in the most emphatic manner, before leaving Paris, that he would not accept any office under any administration, and particularly in the diplomatic service.

The *Herald's* Bismarck, D. T., says orders were received, to-day, at Fort Lincoln, for companies I, E, L and M of the Seventh Cavalry, to move at once to Deadwood on forced marches. The battalion will only muster 184 men, followed by thirty-two wagons and their teamsters. The troops are in no condition to move, and will be worse off when they strike the Indians.

A courier has been dispatched to Standing Rock, ordering the infantry now stationed there, to the seat of war.

Companies from Forts Snelling and Sisseton are expected here via lightning trains. Important messages have been flying in every