

fraction of 138 per cent. for the Western Union on the stock outstanding, 150 per cent. for American Union, not counting the unissued bonds, and 60 per cent. for the Atlantic and Pacific. The directors say there was not a single vote opposed to consolidation. Durfee, a director, says the rates in his vicinity will be increased, but there will be no general increase.

The World's cable has the following details of the weather in London and England: Street traffic is entirely suspended, not a cab or omnibus to be seen, and but for the underground railroad there would be no getting about. Hundreds of poor families have been made homeless, the flood rising to the height of ten feet at many places. Even the houses of Parliament were flooded. At one time it was thought that it would be necessary to adjourn the session on account of the lack of a quorum, many members being unable to reach the building. Biggar solved the problem of a quorum by engaging several cabmen at fabulous prices to venture forth and gather up the members of the Irish party.

The Herald has the following details: The Holyhead mail arrived 12 hours late in London. Twelve inches of snow stopped all traffic at ten in the morning. Trains ceased running at 11, the omnibuses at noon, cabs and hansoms being the only vehicles left since then. Business is practically suspended. Londoners do not remember such a total stoppage of busy life. Travelers arriving had to stay at the nearest hotels. The theatres are deserted. At Her Majesty's, scarcely 100 persons were present, only four persons occupying stalls. Booth, at the Princess', made his first appearance as Iago, before a scanty audience. Between 10 and 11 to-night the only vehicle seen in Fleet Street was a solitary hansom with an extra horse attached to draw a single occupant. A curious silence prevails. The recent frost having frozen the water pipes, the unusual sight is seen on the streets of water being offered for sale to supply Londoners with breakfast and tea.

With a partial restoration of the telegraph wires prostrated by the storm in England, instances of persons being overwhelmed by the snow and frozen to death are reported from various districts. Railway trains had to be abandoned in snow drifts where only the funnel of the engine is visible. The damage to the Dover pier by the fury of the sea is £10,000. Solid masses of concrete were scooped out by the waves, and stones weighing more than a ton were washed away. The pier at Southend, on the Thames, opposite the mouth of Medway, was carried away by the ice, and boats which were aiding in the rescue of persons on the pier, and eight persons drowned.

The Tribune's Washington special says: There was a scene in the foreign affairs committee room today which for a few moments caused considerable excitement. The committee was engaged in consideration of the famous Benjamin Weil and La Abra silver mines claim against the Mexican government. Mr. Worden, attorney of this city, who is counsel for Weil was making a statement which ex-Postmaster General Creswell, representing the Mexican government, regarded as incorrect and asked for its correction. Worden refused to be interrupted and was proceeding when Creswell insisted upon making an explanation. This Worden resented as a personal affront and retorted angrily that he would not be interrupted and said something about settling the affair elsewhere. Creswell grew warm but the chairman reprimanded the gentleman to order and informed them that any further exhibitions of that sort will bring the meeting and investigation to a summary close. Creswell apologized for his interruption. Mr. Worden cooling down the argument was resumed.

New York, 20.—The Times says: Plaintiff Hatch is owner of 100 shares of the American Union Company's stock, and the suit is in behalf of himself and all the other stockholders of the American Union Company who may come in and claim the benefit procured by its means, or that is the production of the three telegraph companies. Mr. Hatch says in his complaint that the American Union Telegraph Company was started to overcome the monopoly which was created when the Western Union Telegraph Company obtained control of the Atlantic & Pacific, and to bring about a healthy competition, which inures to the benefit of the commercial public.

He says when he became stockholder in the American Union he expected to make large profits from patronage which the public generally would give it as an advocate of cheap telegraphing and that the American has now, by the expenditure of about \$10,000,000, procured a complete system of telegraph lines and equipments as that which is possessed by the Western Union Company, whose capital stock of \$40,000,000 represents the value of its lines and equipments with its capital of \$10,000,000. Mr. Hatch says: The American Union earn as much as the Western Union with \$40,000,000 capital. He alleges a combination or conspiracy has been entered into between the directors of his company and the other companies, for the purpose of their own gain, not for the benefit of the stockholders, to consolidate all the lines and companies, and re-erect the monopoly in the telegraph business. For that purpose these directors propose to issue an additional capital of \$4,000,000 to be added to the existing capital of 40,000,000. The Western Union Company, to which \$4,000,000 additional capital is to be distributed in shares without any cash being paid in return for such shares. The additional capital of \$4,000,000 he says is to represent the material that cost only \$10,000,000. Mr. Hatch alleges that is contrary to the interests of trade and commerce and is against policy and law, and that the Board of Directors of the American Union Company have no power to sell out that company, therefore, he asks the court, upon these grounds, to intervene by injunction and thus avert the threatened irreparable damage to him and other stockholders. The affidavit made by Hatch in support of his application for a temporary injunction, which he has obtained, is voluminous and recites more in detailed circumstances than is related in the original complaint. In the injunction is a provision directing the defendants to show cause in the Supreme Court, on Monday next, why injunction should not be continued until the determination of the suit.

The Whittaker court martial began to-day. The order for the court martial being read Whittaker's counsel, Governor Chamberlain, said, they had no challenge to make against any member of the court, but desired Colonel Lugenbiel put upon his *voir dire*, so they might determine whether to challenge him or not. Colonel Lugenbiel was sworn and closely interrogated by Chamberlain, whether he had ever expressed an opinion, or had conversed or read about the case. Lugenbiel said he had read the papers on the trial, and talked now and then, but knew as little about it as any man; might have expressed an opinion; had formed no definite opinion and was not prejudiced. He would prefer not to serve if there was objection. Chamberlain left the matter with the court whether Lugenbiel should remain, and the court said only a formal challenge would excuse him. Whittaker not objecting to him the oaths were administered to all the members. The court being duly organized Chamberlain said the defense would need time to digest the testimony and prepare for the work before the court. Judge Advocate Gardiner also asked time, and the court therefore adjourned to the 3d of February.

A fire occurred in a building on Mott street at 3 o'clock this morning, containing 160 families, comprising 1,500 souls. The scene witnessed is without parallel for confusion in the history of fires in this city. The building is known as the "Big Flat," is six stories in height, seventy-five feet in front, and runs through the block to Elizabeth street a distance of about 209 feet. The fire broke out on the ground floor, in a grocery store, and the flames, breaking through the front windows, ascended on the outside of the broad front of the building until the roof was reached. Fortunately the police and firemen were quickly upon the scene and hurried the screaming women and children and cursing men into the street, policemen having to use their clubs freely to drive the people out. Thus was prevented a calamity awful even to contemplate.

The great snow storm which has almost placed the United Kingdom under complete embargo, is general throughout Europe. Communication between London, Paris, Brussels and Amsterdam, is entirely stopped. The gale has somewhat abated, but its force is still great. The overflow of the Thames has done immense damage. Traffic in London is almost entirely suspended.

There are distressing reports of wrecks along the coast, where the sea is so high as almost to preclude assistance being rendered by the coast guards. There is no record of so severe a storm.

A French vessel sunk off Great Yarmouth, with a loss of 20 lives. A large stranded at Carleston and eight persons were lost. A bark has been wrecked on Suffolk coast, with a loss of ten lives.

WASHINGTON, 20.—Mr. Dwight K. Tripp, of San Francisco, and Miss Corinne Williamson, daughter of Gen. Williamson, Commissioner of the General Land Office, were married this evening in the Ascension Church in this city, and afterwards had a reception at the residence of the bride's father. The wedding was a brilliant affair, with a distinguished attendance. Many Senators and Representatives, several members of the Cabinet, and Judges of the Supreme Court besides a large representation of prominent society people. Mr. Tripp and his bride went north and will soon proceed to Scotland where he has business to transact for the Anglo-American Land & Colonization Association, of which he is managing attorney, and the Chicago, Texas & Mexican Consolidated Railway Company, of which he has recently become vice-president. It is learned that Scottish capital to the amount of over \$20,000,000 has already been secured to ensure the construction of the above named railroad, in which enterprise also a large number of Chicago and Eastern capitalists are now actively engaged.

The Senate, in executive session, directed its committee on elections to investigate by what means the full text of the Chinese treaties and accompanying documents printed "in confidence" (for the use of all members of the Senate) became public last week in 12 or 15 newspapers throughout the country. A resolution ordering the investigation was printed by Edmunds in a speech in the course of which he expressed a hope that the Senate will subject any correspondent who refuses to disclose the source from which he obtained the documents, to imprisonment in jail for so long a time as he may continue to refuse to answer any of the committee's questions. The resolution as adopted empowers the committee to send for persons and papers.

Ex-Secretary Thompson continued yesterday morning his argument before the committee on foreign affairs against the application of the Monroe Doctrine in the Panama Canal project, and Captain Eads made further argument before the House committee on the inter-ocean canal in support of his plan for an inter-ocean ship railway.

SAN FRANCISCO, 20.—The Produce Exchange of this city has published the results of efforts to obtain the stock of grains in the State on January 1st. The exchange claims great care in getting the result, and states the figures are approximately correct: Flour on hand at that date, 78,253 barrels; wheat, 19,805,466 cents; barley, 1,651,787 cents.

READING, Pa., 20.—A special from Girardville in the coal regions gives an account of a terrible coasting accident in which two young ladies who were going down hill on a sled were instantly killed. Miss Mary Cardiff and Miss Honora Dougherty were invited to join a coasting party. During the first trip the boy who was guiding lost control of the sled and seeing his danger rolled off and escaped. The sled sped on and crashed against a telegraph pole. Miss Cardiff was brained and her face smashed to a jelly. Miss Dougherty had her back broken and was otherwise shockingly mutilated.

ST. PAUL, 20.—Advices are received at headquarters of the department of Dakota that Chiefs Good Bear, Big Skirts and Crow King, with 50 lodges of Sitting Bull's Indians, are now on the way to Fort Buford, to surrender. Scout Allison is with them. Forty more lodges, under Sitting Bull himself, left the mouth of Milk River for Canada, and as they have but about 70 miles to go, are now across the line. Thompson, a deserter from the Canadian police, who lives with the Indians, paints, dresses and lies as well as the worst of them, influenced Sitting Bull to take this course. Sitting Bull's whole band numbered about 1,000. Three hundred and twenty-five of them are now captured and at Fort Buford, and as many more are on the way to surrender, so that Sitting Bull himself has less than 300 men, women and children, all told.

NEW YORK, 21.—Francis B. Booth and his wife Eloise Booth, aged people, have kept a bird store on Bleeker Street for some time. For nearly 30 days the store has been closed, but as the people were eccentric, no attention was paid to this. The police last night found the old people in bed, hardly able to speak from hunger. They were taken to the hospital, where it was said recovery was doubtful. They had been sick 30 days and had eaten nothing for nine days. Booth was at one time a wealthy man, but lost his money in speculation.

The Herald's Rome, Italy, special, says: Since the arrest of the American forgers at Florence, Turin and Milan, important papers have been found secreted in their luggage, showing that their operations extended throughout the United States, Canada, England, France, Belgium and Italy, revealing also the names of their confederates, some of whom have since been arrested in different parts of Europe. Among their operations were forgeries several years ago in the board of education of New York, passing bogus checks in Cheyenne, Salt Lake City, San Francisco and Sacramento, robberies on board the Pacific Mail steamer, forgeries and swindling operations in Cincinnati, Louisville, Richmond, Baltimore, New York and Boston, forged drafts on Alexander Brown & Sons, Baltimore, Seligman & Co., New York, the Planter's Bank, of St. Louis, the Bank of California, and on banks in Boston and Buffalo; forgeries of Erie, Central Pacific, and Chicago and South Western bonds; sales in Europe of counterfeit \$50 bills on the Broadway and Tradesmen's Bank, New York, and of Montreal notes, counterfeiting letters of credit on Brown, Brothers & Co., of New York; thefts of French and Russian bonds on the Calais and Dover steamers, and forgeries of French three per cents. and Italian five per cents. Part of the proceeds of the Trenton Bank robbery has also been found upon them. These are the results of the investigation so far. No doubt there are numerous other crimes to be added to the catalogue.

CHICAGO, 21.—Associated Press office. Owing to a heavy sleet storm which seems to extend from Philadelphia, northward, along the coast into New England and for two hundred miles west. No reports are received from the east, the wires being broken and unfit for business. There is not a single wire to New York, only one wire from Pittsburg to Baltimore, and the latter city is sending all telegraph business through to New York by train. There is very little prospect for getting any eastern or European news until late in the evening.

Nine passenger cars of the express train on the Chicago and Rock Island and Pacific Railway, which left Council Bluffs yesterday morning for Chicago were thrown from the track by a broken rail, near Pond Creek, Ills., early this morning. One of the cars took fire from a lamp and two passengers were fatally injured and four so seriously hurt that they were obliged to remain at a hotel at Tiskilwa, Ills., under doctor's care. Mrs. Kerby, of Nevada, Ohio, was so badly burned that she died a few hours after the accident occurred. The conductor was badly burned about the hands and face in his efforts to extinguish the flames in which she was enveloped. Matt Phelps, of Grinnell, Ohio, received such internal injuries it is thought he cannot recover.

The Tribune's Washington special says: The members of the Ponca commission have passed a resolution of secrecy as to their proceedings and are preparing their report which they now expect to submit to the President in about a week. No official information is obtained from them as to the result of their visit or their report. It is alleged, however, that there will be two reports, a majority and minority. The majority report will support Tribbles and Brighteyes and generally take the Boston side of the case and will be signed by the two military members of the commission, Gens. Crook and Miles (and by the civilian from Boston) Walter Allen. The minority report which will entirely sustain the Interior Department will be signed by Stickney, of Washington, the other civilian member of the commission who has at different periods had some connection with the interior department. Stickney is understood to have been the member of the commission who telegraphed from Indian Territory to the President that the commission could not hire a Ponca to return to Da-

kota. It was this dispatch which the commission recently reported was unauthorized. It is very evident unless all reports are untrue therefore, that the story told by the Indian chiefs here was either not their whole case or else a majority of the Ponca commission have been deceived.

Correspondence.

Report from Railroaders.

NAVAJO RIVER, Colorado,
January 8, 1881.

Editor Deseret News:

As there are so many flying reports in Utah concerning those who have left their homes in that locality, to work upon the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, we thought a few lines would not be amiss in comforting wives, fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters and friends in general.

The Juab contracting company not being posted in regard to the climate, failed to push in the supplies that were necessary, and therefore were overtaken by cold weather about the 10th of November, with but very little to eat, consisting mostly bread and meat, and we believe there was one camp, and only one, that had only beef to eat for two days. At the same time there was plenty on the road between the terminus and camp, but the river being frozen partially over made it nearly impossible for freighters to travel, they failing to get to camp as soon as was calculated. This, we believe, is the only time that the writer considers he went short. We will itemize what we have had, as a general thing, with the exception of those four or five days: Flour, some beef, plenty of bacon, ham, dried fruit, rice, tea, and coffee, and as a general thing a No. 1 cook. The reader can judge for himself.

The weather is milder than it has been a month previous, with warm days but rather cold nights. The snow is from a foot to 14 inches deep.

The health of the men is good as a general thing.

Yours most truly,

J. E. PICKUP,
G. A. CHASE.

The Man with the Mules.

SALT LAKE CITY,
January 24th, 1881.

Editor Deseret News:

Please permit me to express amusement in reading the little stampede of our mules in your Saturday's issue. I don't get into your paper (for the first time) on my own account, but on the mules' account. They are mules! So much mules in them as I never saw in any other two mules. They are "thoroughbred." They are of the mule strain of blood; are political mules, and young as they are, have already "sloped over" and gained a newspaper notoriety. They are feeling mules—they have felt for me often and rapidly, with every leg hung to them, and have felt for my hard and soft spots, and I have felt for them feelingly and often. Why, sir, I have stuck to those mules until I feel playfully mulish in writing this. I broke those mules—broke them to be gentleman mules and they never ran away before, but on this occasion I handed Jones the halter to hold them, and just then he proposed to buy them—they jumped, Jones dropped the halter, they run, I suppose, startled by the absurd idea of such "long eared gentlemen" going with such long legs as his; however I stayed with them, until I ran them off the street, and probably saved the wagon and my little brother's life. Hestuck to the wagon to the last and was about the only small piece of grit but what was mercilessly spilled out.

Jokes, aside, Jones did his best to help me.

Respectfully,
BOY WITH THE MULES.

John's wife and mine were tete-a-tete,
She was witty, industrious he;
Says John: "I've earned the bread we ate;"
"And I," says she, "have urn'd the tea."

A meddlesome old woman was sneering at a young mother's awkwardness with her first infant and said: "I declare, a woman never ought to have a baby unless she knows how to hold it." "Nor a tongue, either," was the quiet rejoinder.