

## BY TELEGRAPH.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

## AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The Government will soon institute proceedings in Boston to test the validity of the patent granted the Bell Telephone Company. Solicitor-General Jenks has prepared the draft of a bill against the company and copies of it have been sent to Judge Thurman in Ohio, to Judge Lowry in New York, and to other special attorneys employed by the Government in this case, for their consideration. Action will be deferred until these gentlemen have expressed their views in regard to the proposed bill.

The *Evening Star* to-night says that the President has about decided to offer the Turkish mission, vacated by the resignation of Hon. S. S. Cox to General Egbert L. Viele, of New York, member of the House of Representatives.

A decision was also rendered in the county bond case of L. C. Whitford against the County of Clark, in error to the United States Circuit Court, for the Eastern District of Missouri. This was a suit upon the interest coupons of a series of bonds issued in June, 1871, by the County of Clark, Missouri, as a subscription to the capital stock of the Missouri & Mississippi Railroad Company. The court below held that upon the facts as presented, the holders of the coupons who were not holders of the bonds from which they had been detached, were not entitled to recover. This coincides in the view taken by the Circuit Judge upon the facts as found, but holds that there was an error in the ruling of the court below, and for that reason reverses the latter's judgment and sends the case back for a new trial.

## FRAUDULENT ENTRIES.

Commissioner Sparks, of the General Land Office, has received a letter from a law firm at West Plains, Missouri, enclosing a newspaper paragraph, stating that Judge Blair, of Wyoming, instructed a jury in a recent case that a person who has made a homestead entry and committed it to cash and afterwards made another homestead entry, is not guilty of perjury in swearing in the second case that he had not previously had the benefit of the homestead laws, and that in giving this instruction Judge Blair decided that a person who makes and commutes a homestead entry does not thereby exhaust his right under the homestead law. In response to this letter Commissioner Sparks says that if such a decision has been made it will have no effect whatever, unless it may be to induce ignorant persons to make fraudulent entries. By Section 2-23 of the Revised Statutes, says the Commissioner, a homestead entry only can be made by one person, and by Section 2-208 the commutation of that entry to cash does not enable him to make another homestead entry. Any decision to the contrary would be in direct violation and contempt of the statute, and if Judge Blair has made the decision attributed to him it will not be recognized or respected by this office.

## INTERNAL REVENUE.

During the first five months of the present fiscal year the collections of internal revenue amounted to \$48,005,806, being \$792,509 less than the collections during the corresponding period of the last fiscal year. There was a decrease of \$2,611,614 in the collection on spirits, an increase of \$507,469 on tobacco, an increase of \$1,041,092 on fermented liquors, and an increase of \$7,552,332 on miscellaneous objects of taxation. The collections from oleomargarine up to Nov. 30 were \$225,299. The total collections during November were \$875,744 greater than those for November, 1885. There was an increase of \$101,939 on spirits, of \$199,012 on tobacco, and of \$168,015 on fermented liquors.

## PLEURO-PNEUMONIA.

Senator Spooner to-day, by request of Senator Miller, who is absent, introduced a bill to extirpate contagious pleuro-pneumonia among cattle and to facilitate the exportation of cattle and products of live stock.

Section 1 authorizes the President to appoint a commission of three persons to be known as the United States Cattle Commission. He may, in his judgment, suspend the functions and the pay of these Commissioners and restore them again at any time. The salaries of the Commissioners are fixed at \$5,000 per annum.

Section 2 makes it the duty of the Commissioners to cause an investigation to be had as to the existence of contagious pleuro-pneumonia, foot and mouth disease and rinderpest, and for this purpose they are authorized to enter, either in person or by agents, any premises in which they have reason to believe such disease exists. Upon discovering the existence of the disease the Commissioners are authorized to give public notice of the fact, specifying the location and also to notify in writing the agents of any transportation company doing business in or through the infected locality. The Commissioners are required to establish and maintain such quarantine of the animals, premises or localities as they may deem necessary to prevent the spread of the disease. Also, to cause the appraisal and destruction of the infected or exposed animals. The owners of the animals destroyed are to be paid three-fourths of the value of the ani-

mals as determined upon the basis of health before infection, in the case of animals diseased, and the full appraised value in the case of animals exposed to, but not infected with the disease. It is provided, however, that not more than \$100 shall be paid for any animal destroyed which has a recorded pedigree, nor more than \$50 for an animal without a recorded pedigree; provided further, that in no case shall compensation be allowed for an animal destroyed which may have contracted or have been exposed to disease in foreign countries or on the seas; nor shall compensation be allowed any one who knowingly or willfully conceals the existence of any such disease or the fact of exposure thereto.

Section 3 authorizes the Commissioners to make rules and regulations for carrying the provisions of the bill into effect, the rules to have the effect of law when approved by the President.

Sections 4, 5 and 7 prescribe the penalties for the obstruction of the Commissioners in the performance of their duties; for concealing disease, and for transporting or delivering for transportation from one State to another diseased animals, knowing them to be such.

Section 6 makes it the duty of the Commissioners, whenever any owner of animals refuses to accept the amount authorized to be paid under the appraisal, to declare and maintain a rigid quarantine of the animals and the premises where the cattle may be found.

Other sections make it the duty of the district attorneys to prosecute the violations of the provisions of the bill, authorize the employment of a Secretary to the Commission and of skilled veterinarians, and direct that when the functions of the Commissioners are suspended, their office and records shall be turned over to the Commissioner of Agriculture. The bill appropriates \$1,000,000 to carry its provisions into effect. A similar bill was introduced in the House to-day by Delegate Carey, from Wyoming, by direction of the House committee. It is understood that the bill was prepared by representatives of the Consolidated Cattle Growers' Association.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 20.—Some months ago Richard Shinnick, the keeper of a barroom patronized promiscuously by whites and blacks, sold out his business and left the city for the West, leaving his wife behind. Last evening Mrs. Shinnick, who has been ill with consumption, complicated with other diseases, finding her end fast approaching, made an ante-mortem statement of the details of a murder perpetrated by her husband over a year ago. Shinnick lived over the barroom and his wife was frequently called upon to assist him. She says that one night last fall, between the hours of 11 and 12 o'clock, she happened to enter the bar by the back door when she saw her husband, who was in front of the bar counter, strike and knock down a white man with a pair of brass knuckles; that he turned, and seeing her, ordered her to go up stairs, which she did. She could not rest, however, and creeping down again she peeped into the bar, when she was horrified by seeing her husband drag the man's body behind the counter, rob it of a roll of money, raise the trap at the end of the bar and push the body into an old well under the floor. Upon this information the police to-day went to work to find the remains by pulling up the floor and digging for the hidden well, but have, as yet, made no discovery. The whole place, however, will be thoroughly overhauled. Last fall two State officers, J. M. Carroll, city treasurer of Staunton and W. H. Crawford, clerk of Bland County, left their homes for Richmond, since which time neither of them has ever been heard from, and the belief is strongly prevalent that one of these was Shinnick's victim. The wife's description of the murdered man in some respects agrees with the appearance of both but more so in regard to Crawford. The Cincinnati authorities have been telegraphed to arrest Shinnick if he can be found.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 20.—Grand Master Workman Powderly has addressed a letter to a committee of the United Labor party in this city, in reply to an invitation to address a convention of that party this evening. He thanks them for the honor tendered him, but says there are a great many good reasons why he should decline, and adds:

"When the laboring people of New York nominated Henry George for mayor, they acted independently of party and without regard to the man they had placed at the head of the ticket. My name was used by partisans in New York to stem the tide. It was urged that I wrote a letter against Henry George, and that I opposed the movement generally. I knew of no better way of giving the lie to all of those false statements, and at the same time doing my part toward the establishment of sentiments that would eventually secure for labor some of the benefits for which he worked, than to go in person and refute the charges. I did it, and there my duty ended. In going to New York on that occasion, I made a departure from the rule that I have observed for some time, and which I do not intend to break again, viz: not to speak at political meetings again while I am the first officer of the Knights of Labor. While it might be entirely proper for me to speak at such a meeting yet it creates the impression that the Order of the Knights of Labor is being drawn

into a contest, and it is my duty to do all that lies in my power to keep the Order over which I have been chosen to preside, out of the tide of partisan politics. At New York I spoke as an individual voicing the sentiments of United Labor and not as General Master Workman of the K. of L. While I am General Master Workman, I will never occupy a place either as speaker or officer on a political platform."

FORT SMITH, Dec. 20.—Another bloody Indian Territory murder has just come to light, and two more Indian desperadoes have been sent to the happy hunting grounds. For many years there has existed a deadly feud between the Formans and Starrs, Cherokee natives. About six months ago Sam Starr had his horse shot from under him while riding along through the lonely woods in the Nation. Suspecting Ben Forman of the deed, he determined to avenge it, but was waylaid and shot by some enemies near Younger's Bend. His wounds being considered fatal, he was taken to a house, and while all the guards were at dinner, Sam Starr, wounded as he was, seized a Winchester rifle, disarmed his guard and escaped to Younger Bend, where he lay concealed until his wife, the notorious Belle Starr, assisted him to escape by swimming the Arkansas River and traveling by night to Fort Smith. Sam Starr was charged with robbing the United States mails, and while here he surrendered himself to the authorities, but when able to travel Starr returned to the Nation. Saturday he started for Fort Smith, but stopped at a dance near Foreman's ranche. Ben Forman was there. Starr demanded pay for the horse he killed, when Forman drew his pistol and fired, shooting Starr through the heart. Starr had out his pistol and fired as he fell, the bullet penetrating Forman's neck, and both men died instantly. This ends one of the oldest and bloodiest feuds of many that have existed in the Cherokee Nation. The feud has lasted 60 years and resulted in the death of many men on both sides.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 20.—Letters from Leasa Nana, Seminole Nation, Indian Territory, give an account of the death there on the 6th inst. of Mrs. Susanna Warren, perhaps the oldest person in the United States, if not the world. She was born in the old town of St. Augustine, Florida, in 1750, 15 years before the Americans conceived the idea of National Independence. She was born a slave and was the property of Spanish masters until 1818, when she went with other Spanish slaves that fled from the town of Pensacola when it was taken by General Jackson. She lived in the Indian country from then until the second treaty of peace with the Seminoles, when she was regarded as their common property and was removed with them to the Indian Territory. She leaves one daughter, living who resides in Austin, Texas, and is in her 97th year. She leaves many grandchildren, some of them nearly 70 years of age.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 20.—The death from hydrophobia of the daughter of Louis Grund, ex-chairman of the Republican City Central Committee and a prominent quarry-man and contractor, was reported to the coroner to-day. Barbara Elizabeth Grund, 16 years old, some time ago was playing with a young puppy, only two months old, when it bit her. The wound was not serious, and as the dog, so far as known, had never been out of the house since its birth, and had never been with other dogs, nothing was thought of it. About eight days ago, however, the young lady began to show symptoms of the dread disease and two physicians were called in. Their efforts to relieve her sufferings were of no avail and she rapidly grew worse until yesterday, when she died in the greatest agony.

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 20.—On Friday morning Walter Bingham, a deaf mute, son of Wm. Bingham, formerly a prominent educator, hired a horse and buggy here and took Miss Turlington, also a deaf mute matron in the State Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and Blind, apparently to ride. He was engaged to be married to Miss Turlington, and procured a license here. The couple did not return. They took the road to Durham. They were seen riding together on Friday afternoon, within eight miles of Durham. That evening Bingham alone took the train at Durham, and on the train inquired the time of the arrival at Atlanta and New Orleans. Foul play was suspected, and telegrams were sent out after Bingham, and officers from this city are in search of the lady.

A telegram received to-day says that Bingham was in Carmansville, New York, Sunday, that he was crazy and had disappeared.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—The Police Department to-night sent out instructions for the arrest of Walter L. Bingham, the insane deaf mute, who is reported as having probably murdered the deaf mute girl near Raleigh, North Carolina. He was formerly an inmate of the New York Asylum for deaf mutes. He left three years ago and went to Raleigh where his parents reside. They are well to do. Walter had been in the asylum for about 5 years. He was a very bright looking young man. On Sunday he visited the asylum remaining there about half an hour. He saw several inmates whom he knew when confined there. They learned that he had recently come from Raleigh. He was evidently insane and said that he intended to wait in this city for a man who was coming from Raleigh and whom he was going to kill. Bingham left the asylum and the same day a letter was received by one

of the Supervisors from the Principal of the Deaf Mute School in Raleigh, stating that Bingham had killed a girl there, and to have him arrested. To-day a dispatch for his arrest was received from Raleigh. He is believed to be in New York or Jersey City.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—Early this morning Maurice Nugent, a candy maker, was shot and killed in a saloon on Howard Street by Thomas Bailey, a well known character. This makes the fourth murder within the last week, and the seventh within the last six weeks in this city.

GALVESTON, Dec. 21.—A fire broke out at three o'clock this morning in the residence portion of the city, on Avenue K, between 21st and 22nd Streets. This portion of the city consists almost exclusively of wooden buildings. The fire spread with great rapidity owing to the water in the cisterns in the vicinity becoming exhausted. Before the flames were controlled they had swept over the greater portion of two squares. Twenty-eight dwelling houses and two stores were burned. The total loss is estimated at eighty to one hundred thousand dollars.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The suspension J. H. McCon was announced to-day on the stock exchange. This is one of the houses reported in trouble in the panic of last Wednesday, but which tided over the trouble until today. McCon has been a member of the stock exchange since '72. It is stated that McCon has no outstanding contracts on the exchange.

BUFFALO, Dec. 21.—Albert Rivert, dry goods merchant of this city, has assigned.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The President has approved the act to relinquish the interest of the United States to certain lands in the city and county of San Francisco, and an act retiring Vice-Admiral Rowan and Admiral Worden with the highest pay of their respective grades.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 21.—The private bankinghouse of V. G. Hush & Co. suspended payment this morning. The liabilities are not yet known. The cause of the failure is said to be the necessity for Hush to carry the paper of Jackson & Collius, owners of the Purland Iron Mine, on which he was endeavor to the extent of \$300,000 or \$400,000. The bank itself will be solvent and Hush himself is worth at least \$150,000. It is believed he will be able to pay in full.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Dec. 21.—Judge Pratt of the Brooklyn Supreme Court, to-day granted an order to show cause why a stay should not be granted to McQuade the boodler ex-Alderman returnable to-morrow.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—In a special term of the supreme court to-day Judge Van Brunt gave a decision that the assignment of the firm of Kossuth, Marx & Co., the Maiden Lane jewelers and diamond dealers, made in September, '85, was null and void. He declared it to be the consummation of a scheme to defraud their creditors, who were chiefly foreigners, and ordered it to be set aside on those grounds. The firm was composed of three brothers Kossuth and Adolphus and Jacob Marx. The firm failed in that month for over a million dollars. The failure created considerable excitement both here and abroad in the trade.

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—The sale of the Chicago & St. Louis to the Atchison Company was confirmed yesterday by the official announcement made by Norman Williams, President of the Chicago, Santa Fe & California R. R. Co.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 21.—A Greencastle, Indiana, dispatch says: Wm. Musset, the murderer of Daniel Eaton, Ohio, on the 7th inst., was arrested here and has admitted his identity, and that he worked for Christman, but he denied the crime. He is to be sent to Eaton to-day.

A special from Eaton, Ohio, says that William Musset arrived there about noon and created the wildest excitement. The officers got him quickly into a carriage and drove rapidly to the jail, but found there a crowd of 500 men yelling "Kill him!" "Shoot him!" A rush was made for the prisoner, but the officers drew their revolvers and kept the mob back. Another effort to get him was made after Musset was placed in jail, but it failed for lack of organization. The crowd lingers about the jail.

The *Commercial Gazette's* Eaton, Ohio, special says: The lynching of Wm. Musset was fully determined on and all the details arranged this afternoon at a meeting held in this city, at which only trusted men were admitted, and which was made up of the heaviest tax-payers and the best men of the place. Four of the best friends of the sheriff were detailed to peacefully call on him at the proper time and hold him a prisoner. Arrangements were made for cold chisels, sledges and rope. Soon after seven o'clock the sheriff was captured and held a prisoner in the woodshed. Then a party with tools started for the jail, followed by a hooting crowd. The jail doors were soon broken and the leaders were quickly in Musset's cell. He answered to his name but when asked if he had killed Christman denied it. He refused to say anything further, but said: "If you are going to hang me, be quick about it." The men sent for some one to identify him, and this being done, the rope was put on his neck and he was led to the electric tower in the principal part of town, where he was given the opportunity to confess. He declared his innocence, and asked that his body be buried, and

that his coat and letters be given to his wife. The leader then gave the order to pull the rope, one end of which had been thrown over the beam of the tower and was in the hands of several stalwart men. Just then a call for silence was made and a hush fell over the crowd in the expectation of a confession, but Musset again said he was innocent. "Pull the rope," was the order, and in an instant Musset's body was dangling in the air. At this sight the crowd gave vent to its delight by hand clapping and cheers. The body was left hanging an hour, during which time hundreds of women and children gathered about to see it. It was then cut down and given to the undertaker.

Musset's crime was the killing of Daniel Christman, an aged and respected farmer living near Eaton, and the attempted killing of Mrs. Christman on the night of December 7th. Musset had been employed that day by Christman to do some work, and after going to bed that night got up and went out after him. Mrs. Christman then said Musset struck her husband dead with an axe. He came to the house and beating her to insensibility, robbed the house of a few dollars, set the bed on fire and fled. Mrs. Christman recovered and put out the fire and is still living.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 21.—For some months past the First Colored Baptist Church of this city has been involved in a bitter quarrel which arose primarily from the calling of R. T. Huffman, of Louisville, to the pastorate. The better part of the church objected by reason of his bad character in Louisville, but were overruled and Huffman came. He was soon accused of improper conduct toward the women of the church, and several laid their shame at his door. He had an unaccountable influence over the ignorant portion of the congregation, however, and managed to hold on. It was announced that he would preach on "Rattlesnakes" Sunday night, and as this was construed as personal to his enemies, a large congregation gathered armed for a row. He, however, postponed the sermon until to-night. The church to-night was packed with Huffman's armed adherents, and an angry mob surged outside the building. Huffman, on the advice of friends, did not preach the "Rattlesnake" sermon. As he left the church the mob surged toward him madly. He drew two pistols and fired both into the crowd, but no one in it is known to be injured. Shots were returned and Huffman fled to the church. He escaped through a back window. The crowd thinking he is inside, are still there threatening to burn the house to get at him.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—The argument to show cause why a stay of proceedings should not be issued in the case of ex-Alderman McQuade, convicted boodler, so that the case might be carried to the supreme court on the motion to have the verdict of the lower court set aside and a new trial ordered, was adjourned by Judge Pratt, in Brooklyn, until Tuesday next.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 22.—Obed E. Owens, receiving teller of the Third National Bank of this city, who embezzled about \$300,000 of the funds of the bank, and who has been serving out a sentence in the Chester (Illinois) penitentiary for that crime, was pardoned yesterday by the President. Owens has served one half of the term of five years to which he was sentenced. The President pardoned him on account of statements in several petitions sent from this city and Louisville. In granting the pardon, he said he thought the prisoner had already suffered sufficient penalty.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The bill relating to the opium traffic reported by Edmunds from the committee on Foreign Relations to-day makes provisions for carrying into effect article two of the Chinese treaty of 1881. It makes it a penal offense for citizens or subjects of either country to import, transport or sell opium to others, and gives the American Consular Court of China and the District Courts of the United States jurisdiction in cases arising under the bill.

The report on the mining industries of the United States exclusive of precious metals with special investigations into the iron resources of the country and into the cretaceous coals of the Northwest, forming the fifteenth volume of the tenth census reports, has been received from the public printer and is now ready for distribution.

Senator Williams to-day introduced an amendment to the Sunday Civil Appropriation bill to appropriate \$120,000 for a public building at Los Angeles, Cal.

## TELEGRAPH LINES.

The bill reported from the committee on postoffices and post roads to-day by Warner, of Ohio, relative to the construction and maintenance of telegraph lines by the land grant railroads, provides that all subsidized railroads shall operate for railroads, the Government, commercial and all other purposes, their telegraph lines and shall not exercise for themselves alone all telegraph franchises conferred upon and the obligation assumed by them under the granting acts; that the railroad companies operate their telegraph lines so as to afford equal facilities to all without discriminating in favor of or against any person, company or corporation; that it is the duty of the Commissioner of Railroads to report complaints to the Secretary of the Interior and see that the order is properly and efficiently carried into effect and, if necessary, enforced by mandamus or other legal proceeding;