

[SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.]

By Telegraph.

HOUSE.

There was a fearful expose in the House yesterday of the dark ways and corrupt practices of the lobby and its influence on Congress. The House appropriations committee learned last week that the treasury department was to pay a draft on its current appropriations by the Postmaster General for nearly half a million of dollars, to pay a claim of Geo. Cherpennig, for an ancient mail service which had been repudiated by the post office department for the last ten years.

This led to the passage of a resolution asking for a suspension until an investigation could be made by the commissioner. This investigation proved the most remarkable state of things, that one of the counsel of claimant was ex-first assistant Postmaster General Cresswell, that the joint resolution to pay a claim was put through the House by Cessna, of Pennsylvania under a suspension of rules, without report or debate; that it passed the Senate the same day, and was signed soon after by the President, comprising in all but eighteen hours; that Earle submitted what purported to be a report of the House postal committee to Cresswell in favor of this, but which proved to be without the slightest foundation. No such report was ever made by such committee or ever discussed by them. Cresswell, instead of waiting for an application to pay the claim drew a draft against the general fund for it, and it was paid on its face. The report made by P. M. Generals Brown, Holt, Blair, Randall and himself had no foundation in law or equity. These and many other facts brought to the attention of the House by Dawes and Beck produced such consternation that members generally left their seats and gathered around the speakers. When they concluded, a resolution was unanimously passed repealing the joint resolution to pay the claim. Even Cessna, who pushed the job originally sat in his seat and never said a word.

GENERAL.

Bourbaki's army and the fortress of Belfort are not comprised in the armistice. The Prussian line of demarcation for the southern armies is to be the line of the Loire.

By the latest report of the negotiations, it appears that Bismarck demands two provinces, a colony, twenty war ships and 4,000,000,000 francs as the final terms of peace. The capitulation will only be regarded as a military act, and apart from all political negotiations.

SAN FRANCISCO, 30.—The Germans are celebrating the fall of Paris. Between four and five thousand are in procession. The houses are illuminated and the entire city appears to have taken part in the rejoicing.

NEW YORK.—A *Herald's* Versailles special dispatch, dated Jan. 28th, says: "As the facts concerning the negotiations develop, a better feeling is evident among both the French and Germans, and all begin to agree in hoping for the termination of the war. The French are specially well pleased at the apparent modification of the German desire to humiliate Paris by a triumphal entry into the capital. The negotiations between Bismarck and Favre form one of the most interesting chapters in the history of this memorable war. The arrival of Favre was known to none, except those immediately concerned in conducting him through the lines. On his arrival at the house occupied by Bismarck, he was immediately admitted to the presence of the Chancellor, and, after a few remarks, Bismarck said: 'Well, Monsieur Favre, what is the object of this visit?' Favre, much affected, replied: 'The object is to put a stop to the terrible suffering of the people. Now that the hope for relief from without is lost, Paris must needs seek peace. All we ask is, such a consideration as a generous enemy might give without the loss of advantage or honors.' Bismarck expressed a desire to do all in his power to show his respect for the suffering and gallantry of the French nation consistent with the safety, honor and interest of United Germany. He said: 'This has been, from first to the last, the object and desire of the Emperor and his advice ever since the commencement of the unhappy war which was forced upon us.' Favre, at first, demanded the terms already reported. Bismarck replied: 'It is not my province to refuse or accept terms; but I must say, that the proposals are such that I cannot myself approve of them;

and I feel confident my august master will reject them. However, it is my duty to submit them for his consideration.' Favre was politely, but strictly, placed under surveillance, and occupied an apartment over the police bureau. As already reported, the first overtures were promptly rejected. After Favre's return with the acceptance, in substance, of the terms demanded by the Emperor, great excitement prevailed at Versailles. The mayor went twice to the police headquarters, to obtain an interview, but received peremptory orders not to attempt it, as such an act would render him liable to imprisonment. An interview again took place between Bismarck and Favre. The former afterward waited on the King and Council, when Favre's acceptance on the part of the provisional government was submitted. After Bismarck left the Emperor, he walked into the office of his chief aid, Gen. Lorndorff, and began to whistle a Prussian air which the trumpeter sounds at bear hunts when the beast is down and settled. After concluding the tune he walked out again, never having spoken a single word to any one present. The next morning, the terms, which were drawn up over night between Bismarck and Favre, in detail, were handed to the Emperor.

There is a rumor current that Von Moltke was greatly disappointed with the action of the Crown Prince's army in the action at the sortie on the 19th, and thinks the ground was lost unnecessarily and has expressed his opinion openly. There is a growing coldness in consequence, between the Crown Prince and the Commander-in-chief.

CHICAGO.—The full details of the destruction, by fire, of the Holladay House at Cenasna, Wisconsin, yesterday morning, are replete with horror. The fire broke out in the lamp room on the second floor, where there were a large number of lamps, filled, and a five gallon can of kerosene, and, when first discovered by some gentlemen just passing, had already gained fearful headway, the smoke rushing in and suffocating the volumes up the stairways and through the halls. As soon as the alarm was given, every effort was made by the proprietors of the hotel and others to arouse and rescue the inmates, about thirty in number, and the firemen and citizens, who gathered in large numbers, soon succeeded in getting four streams of water, two from hand engines and two from hose belonging to adjacent factories, upon the flames. Meanwhile, the scene in and around the burning building was weird and horrible in the extreme. The night was as dark as pitch, and a strong wind was blowing from the north and a heavy fall of mingled sleet and snow added to the misery of those engaged in their attempt to rescue the inmates of the hotel. By the lurid glare of the flames could be seen men and women leaning from the windows and crying in despair for assistance from below; a full realization of their awful position was upon them; the men below were shouting encouragingly for them to hold on or descend by the stairs; while others, with more presence of mind and commendable alacrity, brought ladders from surrounding barns and hay lofts, and assisted in rescuing those who had already succeeded in descending to the second story, but could go no further. Efforts were made to reach the third story, but the ladders were too short, and before they could be spliced the heat became so intense that it was impossible to use them. Suddenly the screams of a woman and children were heard above the outside tumult, and another, but unsuccessful attempt was made to reach the third story, one of the front rooms of which was occupied by Mrs. Merrill and her four little children, the eldest twelve years of age and the youngest a babe in arms. Captain Everett, moved by a spirit of heroic humanity, determined to make the effort himself to save the mother and her little children from such a horrible death and rushed up stairs at the risk of his own life and reached the room where he was told they were, but found no trace of them. He shouted again and again and finally heard a faint response from some distant part of the building. Again the brave man rushed into the stifling smoke and spreading flames, but, although he could hear the agonizing cries of the mother and the shrieks of terror of the little ones, he could not find them and, to save his own life, was obliged to flee from the building. Soon after, the flames burst from the windows of the room occupied by the unfortunate woman and the cries of terror and anguish were stilled, and all

hope was lost. Simond Capron, son of Col. Horace Capron, U. S. Commissioner of Agriculture, occupied the room adjoining Mrs. Merrill's and was only aroused by the flames, through which he rushed in his night garments, first to the stairs to find it burnt away, then to the window through which he leaped to the ground, his clothes burning off his body, which presented a ghastly spectacle, one of his cheeks being burned to the bone and the charred flesh dropped from it; his collar bone was broken and was protruding from the flesh, and the blood was dropping from a number of wounds. Herbert R. Chase jumped from the fourth story window and sustained terrible, and, it is feared, fatal injuries. Simon Fuller, clerk of the House, was among the first aroused by Captain Everett, who discovered the fire, and started at once to arouse the guests; when opposite the door of the lamp room, a terrific explosion occurred and he was thrown to the floor and literally saturated with burning oil, so that he was a mass of flames. He was still able to get to the window, and threw himself to the ground. He was so burned as to be unrecognizable. He died in the afternoon. Edward Wade, cook of the hotel, occupied a room in the upper floor and is missing, and is doubtless killed. The streams of water were kept playing on the ruins until they became sufficiently cool to search for the last. After an hour's work, the charred bodies of Mrs. Merrill and her children were found, the mother clasping to her breast the one-year-old girl, while close by lay the other children, two boys and a girl, a ghastly group, the sight of which brought tears from the eyes of the strongest men gathered around. The husband and father of these unfortunates was absent on a business trip, and a telegram was sent to him conveying the intelligence which will darken his life. The loss on the hotel building, which was totally destroyed, is \$8,000; insured, for \$3,000, in the Pacific, of California. The loss to the furniture is \$2,500. Capron's flour and feed store lost stock to the amount of \$2,000.

The *World* has a cablegram dated London, Feb. 1, which says: Court circles here are confident of the restoration of the Empire, with Eugenie as its regent. The Emperor's confidential aid arrived at Chiselhurst to-day. Significant courtesies have lately been extended by Victoria to Eugenie.

A Washington special correspondent of the *Evening Post* says: General Sumner has received from a friend a letter written by Cabral, President Baez' opponent in San Domingo, bearing date Dec. 21, 1870, in which he says that he was preparing to move upon and capture the principal strongholds of Baez, and that he fully expected to be successful. Cabral's strength is greatly underestimated by his enemies. He has more troops at his command than those opposed to him are willing to admit. He has no intention of abandoning the struggle, as alleged.

SAN FRANCISCO, 1.—The Lower California colonization scheme, it appears, has been practically abandoned, emigrants refusing to go there.

A fire occurred this morning, in Virginia City, Nevada. It was the most destructive one that has visited that city for years.

The debt statement, up to February 1st, shows a total debt, principal and interest, of \$2,451,921,096. Cash in the Treasury: \$123,894,289; deficiency of cash in the Treasury to pay the debt: 2,328,026 807; decrease in the past month: \$404,986; decrease since March, 1870, \$110,801,670.

FOREIGN.

A strong influence is at work favoring the restoration of the Imperial family, under a regency composed of the Empress, Trochu and Favre. The Emperor will not enter Paris, but will return to Berlin on Tuesday, leaving the Crown Prince in command of the Prussians.

The capitulation and armistice settles nothing political, nor do they ensure the end of the war. All depends upon the Assembly.

A dispatch has been received at the British Foreign Office confirming, in full, the previous reports of the capitulation of Paris, to which it adds, that one division of the troops of the line, besides the national guards, will not be required to disarm, and that communication with Paris is provisionally restricted. There is no prospect, now, that Favre will come to London, and no other has been referred to to represent France at the Conference.

Bismarck, alluding to the reported negotiations between Napoleon and the Prussian government says: "The Em-

peror refers everything to the Regency." Bismarck denies that he has ever negotiated for the restoration of the Bonapartes, or that he intends to interfere in the domestic concerns of France.

Bourbaki attempted to kill himself after his defeat at Belfort. His injuries are so severe that his life is despaired of.

BERLIN, 29.—The scenes on the streets are beyond description. Every person on his way to church, as he meets his neighbor, is stopped and embraced, and the women are congratulating each other with tears in their eyes. The news of the capitulation certainly creates, in the public mind here, a charitable feeling, and there is a strong desire to act generously towards the fallen foe.

Chauzy's headquarters are at Laval. The 15th, 16th, 19th and 25th corps occupy Neuston, Barrages and Nevers. Bourbaki has the 18th, 20th and 24th corps at Roulando and Garibaldi, at Dijon, has thirty thousand men. Faidherbe has the 22nd and 23rd corps at Arras, Dorace and Cambrai. Salsle is in front of Havre with 30,000; the camps of instruction contain fifty thousand men, the conscripts of 1871 number three hundred thousand, so that at the end of the armistice, France will resume the war with nine hundred thousand men.

LONDON, 30.—An official dispatch to the Baden Ministry states that the army of General Bourbaki has entered Switzerland, crossing the border near Bruntrout. The reported attempt of Bourbaki to commit suicide is confirmed.

Later.—Gambetta is reported to have committed suicide.

LONDON, 31, noon.—The armistice begins instantly at Paris, and in three days, in the departments, ending at noon February 19th. The sea forces are included in the armistice. By the capitulation the prisoners of war remain during the armistice in Paris after the surrendering of the arms. The national guards and gendarmes retain their arms as police. All the francs-tireurs are disbanded. German prisoners are to be exchanged.

VERSAILLES, 30.—The distress in Paris is very great. The destruction of railways impedes the revictualing. The Germans in the meanwhile are supplying the first necessities from their own stores.

LILLE, 30.—The armistice has astounded the north. The impression is rather favorable but undecided, waiting the conditions of peace. It is said the Germans have invested Abbeville, notwithstanding the armistice.

General Manteuffel encloses the army of Bourbaki on the Swiss frontier. He overtook the retreating French west of Pontaille and captured Chaperi and Tombre Count, with 3,000 prisoners and six pieces of artillery.

LONDON, 1.—The *Times* publishes a telegram from Berlin, which says: "The peace conditions prescribed by Bismarck to Favre, embrace the cession of Alsace and Lorraine, with Belfort and Metz; the payment of ten million of francs as indemnity for the expenses of the war; the cession of the colony of Pondicherry, and the transfer to the German navy of twenty first rate frigates. Favre refers these terms to the National Assembly which is to meet at Bordeaux."

BORDEAUX, 1.—Gambetta has issued a proclamation, saying: "Frenchmen: Prussia by the armistice will dissolve our armies and secure the election of a Chamber ready to conclude a shameful peace. It depends upon France to upset these calculations. It is necessary to make an armistice in order to proceed with the instruction of our young troops and to continue it with unrelaxed vigilance for a defense and for a war; necessary for you to install a national republican assembly, which will be willing to make such a peace, and only such a one as is compatible with the honor, rank and integrity of France."

LONDON, 31.—Bourbaki's army has not entered Switzerland. The French commandant Monterein asked Switzerland to allow the sick to be transported through Switzerland and the request was granted.

EXPERIMENTS have been recently made in Chicago with a new invention, which utilizes the air we breathe in the propulsion of street cars; and so favorably impressed were the witnesses that an opinion has been expressed that horses will soon be superseded by air for this purpose. The only difficulty, according to the *Chicago Tribune*, regarding its adoption by the car companies, seems to be the method of its application—whether the engine shall be put in each car, or used in dummies with power enough to draw a train if necessary.