

## BY TELEGRAPH.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

WASHINGTON, 1.—The opening session of the Senate was preceded by a lively half hour of handshaking and gossip between Senators and their friends. Several desks of Senators were decorated with floral tributes sent by admirers, the most favored in this respect being Gorman, who was the recipient of two enormous "roosters" and an arm-chair, the latter bearing the words "Reserved for A. P. G., 1887."

Promptly at noon the President of the Senate called the body to order, and prayer was offered.

On motion of Logan, the secretary was instructed to inform the House that the Senate was ready to proceed to business.

Sherman and Garland were appointed a committee to inform the President that the Senate was ready to receive any communication he might be pleased to make.

The secretary read the credentials of Wm. P. Sheffield, appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Anthony.

The Senate then took a recess for half an hour.

At the expiration of recess the following bills were introduced and referred:

By Cullom.—To enable officers of the army promoted for gallant and distinguished services in the war of the rebellion to be retired with the rank and full pay of the grade to which they have been promoted; also, to so facilitate promotion throughout the army by retiring from active service, upon their own application, officers of the army who served in the war of the rebellion; also, to authorize the lighting of navigable rivers of the United States with electricity.

By Dolph.—To prevent the obstruction of navigable waters of the United States, and to protect public works against trespass or injury.

Ingalls offered a resolution, which was agreed to, instructing the commissioner of public lands to report such legislation as is necessary to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to summarily remove all fences illegally constructed on the public domain.

Another recess of half an hour was taken, and at 1.35 the President's message was received and its reading at once proceeded with.

When the reading of the message was concluded, Aldrich, in a few feeling remarks, made formal announcement of the death of Senator Anthony, and the Senate adjourned.

Though the galleries of the House were well filled this morning with spectators, all anxious to view the proceedings attendant on the first day of the session, there was an absence of that crush of visitors which usually characterizes such occasions. Numerous floral designs ornamented the desks of favorite members, and among them a handsome ship of State, of which Cox, of New York, was the recipient. An immense bed of chrysanthemums covered the desk occupied by Barbour of Virginia, and a tasteful basket of variegated flowers adorned the Speaker's table. Members indulged in the usual greetings, exchanging congratulations on re-election or condolence on defeat. The republicans made good-natured replies to equally good natured remarks, chaffing the democrats on the result of the Presidential contest, and there was no bitterness on either side.

Promptly at noon the Speaker's gavel called the House to order.

After prayer, the Speaker directed the clerk to call the roll.

The roll call disclosed the presence of 222 members, and the clerk was directed to inform the Senate that the House was ready to proceed to business.

The Speaker appointed Randall and Cox of New York a committee to wait upon the President, in conjunction with a similar committee from the Senate, to inform him that Congress was ready to receive any communication he might be pleased to make.

Holman presented the credentials of Shevely, member-elect from the thirteenth Indiana district, to succeed Calkins, resigned, and that gentleman took the oath of office.

The House then took a recess for 15 minutes.

At 1:40 p.m. the President's message was received and immediately read.

The message was referred to committee of the whole on the state of the Union, and, with accompanying documents, was ordered printed.

Hutchins, from the committee on appropriations, reported a bill making temporary provision for the naval service. Referred to committee of the whole.

Formal announcement was made of the death of Representatives Duncan and Evans, and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 1.—Representative Morrison, chairman of the ways and means committee, was asked to-night by an Associated Press reporter if he thought there was any probability of the enactment of any tariff legislation at the present session. He replied that he had not yet had an opportunity to ascertain how members felt upon the subject. It might be that there had been some modification of opinion by representatives since last session. It was certain that if there had not been some change of views by democratic members, no tax reduction could be had except by aid of republicans. He added: "I do not propose to attempt any experiments, but if, upon inquiry, I find there is

any reason to think a bill proposing a moderate reduction could pass this session, I shall certainly bring in such a bill." In answer to further questioning, Morrison said that it was not unlikely that the discussion of legislation necessary to carry the Mexican treaty into effect would open up the general tariff question. The new treaty with Spain in relation to the commerce of the United States with Cuba and Porto Rico would be discussed in executive session by the Senate, and would not be likely to lead to any open discussion of the tariff question. As to other work of the session, Morrison said he understood it was proposed to push through the appropriation bills at once. There might also be some land grant legislation, and this would take up most of the time of the session.

The following estimates have been submitted to the House committee on appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30th, '86: Pensions, \$80,000,000; military academy, \$393,344; fortifications, \$7,303,000; consular and diplomatic expenses, \$1,623,176; navy, \$30,654,000; postoffice department, \$56,099,164; Indian bureau, \$7,328,049; army, \$26,110,489; legislative, executive and judicial expenses, \$22,366,506; agricultural department, \$699,110; sundry civil expenses, \$32,326,402; District of Columbia, \$1,740,073; improvements of rivers and harbors, \$3,177,400; total \$254,820,707. The estimates for the present fiscal year were \$213,269,659, and the appropriations \$177,776,450; increase of estimates for the next fiscal year over those of the present year, \$43,462,054, and over the appropriations of the present year, \$82,816,077.

Senator Dawes to-day introduced and referred to the committee on Indian Affairs a bill conferring citizenship on Indians. The bill provides that a native Indian born in the United States, and who has voluntarily taken up his residence in this country apart from any tribe of Indians, and has adopted the habits of civilized life, shall be considered a citizen of the United States and entitled to the privileges of such citizenship.

A bill introduced by Senator Cullom to prohibit distinctions in the army, provides that hereafter all regiments of the army or branches of the military service of the United States shall be open alike to all American citizens, and authorizes the President to appoint a commission and assign officers throughout the army, and to cause the enlistment of soldiers in the army without regard to race or color.

The House committee on appropriations has reported a bill providing for an appropriation similar to that made for the last six months of the past fiscal year, for the support of the navy. The amount appropriated is \$6,734,717.

After the adjournment of the Senate, the republican Senators met in caucus and a committee was appointed to rearrange the membership of committees, more especially to fill the vacancies caused by the death of Senator Anthony.

The Secretary of the Interior has been informed that the local land officers at Cheyenne have refused to receive the deposition of applicants for the purchase of desert lands in submitting final proof, when taken before other than the register and receiver of the district in which the lands are situated. The Commissioner General of the land office has been requested to issue an order that final deposition of an applicant can be taken before the register and receiver of the land district in which the land is situated, or before the clerk of any court of record, or a U. S. commissioner.

Secretary Teller has made an important modification of the ruling of Secretary Schurz in desert land cases. Secretary Schurz held that desert land entries were not assignable, and so far Secretary Teller concurs. But that portion of Secretary Schurz's ruling which says, "there is no discretion which authorizes me to regard such claims as assignable because the assignment was made under a misapprehension" does not meet with Secretary Teller's approval, and he says: "I do not understand that a party is under a misapprehension of the law so as to lose any right when he acts under official interpretation. A misapprehension in such a case is upon the part of the interpreting authority and not upon him who in the prosecution of his claim conforms to such interpretation."

Speaker Carlisle said to an Associated Press reporter to-night that it was not probable there would be any general tariff legislation this session. There is not time, he said, and the fact that, as a new administration is about to come in, democrats and republicans are alike disinclined to attempt anything like a general revision of the tariff now.

WASHINGTON, 1.—Postmaster-General Hutton has made his report for the fiscal year. The revenues were \$43,338,127.08; expenses, \$46,044,960.65—leaving a deficit of \$3,066,833.57, to which are added outstanding debts and credits of the Pacific railroads, raising the excess of disbursements over revenues to \$5,204,484.12. The revenues were \$2,170,565.52 less than for the preceding year, owing to the reduction of postage from three to two cents. The estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30 1886, are: Receipts, ordinary postal revenues, \$50,872,820.24; money order business, \$400,000; total, \$51,272,820.24. Disbursements, all expenses, including Pacific Railroad credits, \$56,099,169.50; deficiency to be supplied, \$4,826,349.26. The receipts for the year are estimated with uncertainty, but the report says, because there is as yet no

basis by which the revenues on a two cent basis can be reckoned, the reduction in the rate of postage from three cents having come at a time when it unequally affected various quarters, but a regular increase of 9 per cent. is expected, and that would place the receipts at the figure given above.

The reduction of postage affected the sales of postal cards so that the number issued last year was 16,649,000 less than the preceding year. Collections on second class matter were \$1,889,592.14—an increase of \$184,414.61 over the preceding year. Of this source of revenue 24.90 per cent. was collected in New York, 9.41 per cent. at Chicago, 6.42 per cent. at Boston, with Philadelphia, St. Louis, Cincinnati and San Francisco following in order. There were 11,246,545 registered articles handled, and 4,751,872 pieces of undelivered mail were received at the Dead Letter Office.

Considering the investigations made by special agents during the year the report says the result of these investigations was gratifying to the Department. Dishonest and negligent officials were discovered. The former were removed and the latter reprimanded and more fully instructed in their duties. In a large number of cases where postmasters were discovered to be short in their accounts, it was owing to negligence or lack of ability to manage the affairs of their office. Too many postmasters feel warranted in regarding their positions as sinecures, and feel free to give their attention to other business, content to draw their salaries as officials, leaving the work of managing their offices to others. This should not be allowed. Postmasters at first and second class offices should be required to give their entire time to their official duties, and should not be permitted to engage in any other business that requires any portion of the time for which they are paid by the Government. This result should be brought about even if it requires a statutory enactment to effect it. The Postmaster General urges the development of the free delivery system, holding that it encourages method in the delivery of mail and stimulates correspondence. He recommends that in densely populated districts hamlets be united in their postal accommodations, so as to bring them within the scope of the law which allows a free system to every postoffice having more than 20,000 patrons. Mr. Hutton, in citing the fact that the free delivery system earned last year \$1,273,278.25 over its expenditures, says he is convinced that the time has come for a reduction of postage on local letters.

The Department views with a jealous eye the growth of the messenger service system, and the Postmaster-General describes the duty of the postal service in the matter of quick local delivery as follows: The necessity and demand in cities for the prompt transmission and delivery of letters passing between business men and others has resulted in the establishment, in many places, of what may be termed letter express companies, which, by the employment of messenger boys, are enabled to greatly facilitate intercourse of this character among merchants, professional persons, and others engaged in active life. I am of the opinion that the public have a right to expect that this department should make the same effort to serve them promptly and faithfully in the transmission and delivery of letters as is done by private parties. I know of no way in which this can be better accomplished than by a special postage stamp. For letters mailed and intended for special and prompt delivery at free delivery offices. This stamp should be of the denomination of ten cents, and when affixed to a letter, in addition to proper postage charge, should insure for it as speedy a delivery as possible after its reception at any letter carrier office. The outside distribution could be effected by employing messenger boys at a small salary, and in such numbers as circumstances should warrant. I am satisfied that such an effort to accommodate the public would still further commend the free delivery service to its patrons in the large cities where it is in operation.

The report expresses confidence in the efficiency of the Star route service, but urges the amendment of the laws relating to contracts in that branch so as to give awards to persons who live along the line of the route, and thus stop the speculation business.

In conclusion, the report gives data of the routine working of the Department, and urges the development of the foreign mail system generally, especially with Mexico. It also approves the suggestion made by the superintendent, that postal notes be amended to be payable to order if desired, and describes the work on various buildings, and the facilities of the Department.

MASSILLON, O., 2.—After a stoppage of several weeks Russell & Co., employing 550 men in manufacturing agricultural machinery, have resumed work at a 10 per cent. reduction of wages.

PITTSBURG, 2.—Edgar Thornton's steel works, employing 5,000 men will close down the latter part of next week and remain idle until after the holidays, unless there is an unexpected rush of orders.

The ten per cent reduction at the American Iron Works and Lewis Foundry was accepted by the employees and work continues as usual.

The proposed reduction at McKee's flint glass factory has been withdrawn and the men resumed work at the old wages.

Melters at Hussey, Howe & Co.'s steel works, whose wages were recently reduced 75 cents per ton, will meet tomorrow to consider the reduction.

LOUISVILLE, 2.—The Courier-Journal staff correspondent investigating the plague in eastern Kentucky, sends the following to-night regarding a war in progress in Letcher County, Ky.: James H. Tinsley, of Barboursville, and Col. Robert F. Boyd, of London, returning home from Whitesburg, Letcher County, gave information of a very warlike state of affairs at Whitesburg, the town being filled with armed men and a bloody fight imminent. Judge Finley, the famous mountain jurist, is judge of this circuit, and for two years past has never dared to go to Whitesburg to hold court because of threats made by one of the most desperate men in the country to kill him if he ever entered it. Recently this man fell a victim to the prevailing plague, and after his death Judge Finley again went to Letcher County. At this term of Letcher Court a man was to be tried for murder. He was out on bail, and his friends—all men of the same desperate stripe as the murderer—determined that he should not be punished. The case was set for Wednesday, and on that day the accused came marching into town carrying a double-barreled shot-gun and a belt full of revolvers, backed by a score of his friends who were armed to the teeth.

The arrival of the murderer and his armed band was followed almost immediately by another of the same size, all carrying shot guns and pistols. This gang was composed of friends of the victim. They went into camp on a bluff overlooking and commanding the town. Meantime a third party, composed of citizens who thought the law should be allowed to take its way and peace be preserved, even if they had to kill every desperado in camp to secure that end, organized and armed themselves and went on duty to stay until after court adjourned. The bands, composed of friends of the murdered man and his murderer, are watching each other closely—one to keep the other in town and the other to keep their foes out, while the citizens' band stands ready to attempt to clean out the entire party when trouble begins. The party composed of the murderer and his friends has been very riotous and drunken since their arrival, and several gory engagements have been played between members of it and outsiders, and on Monday a pitched battle was so imminent that the guns of the opposing squads were aimed for a fight, but the affray was avoided for the time. It is the opinion of my informant that serious trouble will occur before the close of the session to-day. Whitesburg is a remote spot, far from telegraph lines, and later news than the above regarding the situation is unobtainable. Another incident of this stormy session of court was the killing of Bill Hall, one of the most desperate characters in this section, by two guards, from whom he tried to escape. He belonged to one of the bands figuring in the above disgraceful affair, and was arrested on the charge of grand larceny.

WASHINGTON, 2.—Surgeon General Hamilton, of the U. S. marine hospital service, has submitted his annual report. He says: Forty-four thousand seven hundred and fifty-one patients received relief from this service during the year, of which 13,078 were treated in hospital and 31,673 at dispensaries. The danger from yellow fever has been less this year than usual, partly by reason of the lessened severity of that disease in Mexico and Cuba, and partly on account of the vigilance of the local health officers and medical officers of the marine hospital service in charge of quartermasters, and the efficient patrol of the coast by the revenue cutter service.

The occurrence of cholera in Europe so soon after its outbreak last year in Egypt has occasioned much concern in this country, and measures were early taken to guard against its introduction into the United States. The health officers of our seaports as well as of the departments, have been kept advised by consuls of the departure of cargoes liable to convey infection, and steerage passengers from European ports bound to the United States have been carefully inspected by sanitary inspectors acting under the direction of United States consuls. Cholera having materially subsided in France, in the interest of economy, the inspectors at London and Liverpool were discontinued about the middle of October, but as cholera still exists in Italy, and sporadically in the south of France, inspectors at continental ports have been continued in service up to the date of this report.

"It appears," Surgeon General Hamilton says, "that the quarantine measures which are effective against yellow fever, are not equally so as against cholera, and quarantines should be conducted as inspection and disinfection stations, in addition to the proper isolation of the sick. But quarantine, however efficient, will not alone suffice to prevent epidemic cholera in this country if it should once pass the outer barriers. Prompt isolation of the first cases and municipal cleanliness are absolutely necessary factors in the prevention of epidemics. This fact is so well understood by the local authorities that that further reference to this branch of the subject seems unnecessary, except to say that in the event of an epidemic appearing in the interior, it will probably be necessary to supplement the State forces by such aid as the government may be able to furnish."

The Surgeon-General refers to the

temporary embargo recently placed on old rags, and recommends that the law be so amended as to provide that hereafter no rags shall be imported into the United States, or be transported from one State to another, until such rags shall be baled, or otherwise disinfected, under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe. In reply to questions which have been raised with regard to the supposed danger of the introduction of the disease into this country by means of immigrants through Canada, the Surgeon-General says: "The quarantine regulations of Canada are even more stringent than those of the United States, and the supposed danger of infection from immigrants coming from that section, whether residents or from over the sea, has been overrated. Furthermore, the Canadian health officers are now acting in harmony with our own."

ST. JOHNS, N. F., 2.—A dispatch from the channel says: There are no further particulars of the loss of the schooner *Mary Joseph* in the storm of Saturday. The disaster was complete and overwhelming, leaving no vestige. Passengers and crew all lost. [Special to Tribune.]

WASHINGTON, 2.—The report of the Utah Commission is made public. It says: Since our last report of date April 29th, 1884, two important elections have been held in this Territory—the general election for county and precinct officers, held on the 4th day of August, and the election for Territorial Delegate to the Forty-ninth Congress, on November 4th. Both these elections were preceded by revisions of the registration lists under our supervision and direction, by which it is believed that all polygamists were excluded.

The offices filled in the several counties of the Territory at the August election included, among others, those of probate judge, county clerk, selectman, sheriff, recorder, treasurer, surveyor, coroner, prosecuting attorney, county superintendent of district schools, justices of the peace, constables, etc. At the same time a number of municipal officers were elected in several of the cities.

Of the officers so elected, nearly all are Mormons, who are not, in fact, living in polygamy. The only exceptions are a few precinct officers, who are Gentiles or non-Mormons. The vote polled at the August election was comparatively light. Out of 40,743 registered voters, there were only 20,453 votes cast. The vote was so light in Salt Lake City that if the Gentiles or non-Mormons had all voted they would have elected several precinct officers.

At the election of Delegate to Congress, out of 41,838 registered voters, the total number of votes cast was 23,361. Of these, John T. Caine (the candidate of the People's or Mormon party) received 21,130 votes, and Ransford Smith (the candidate of the Liberal or non-Mormon party) received 2,215 votes, and scattering 26 votes. John T. Caine, having received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared elected. The Delegate-elect is a Mormon, but he does not now, and never has, lived in polygamy, and is therefore eligible under the law.

We think we may properly say that the duties imposed upon us have been faithfully and successfully performed, with the result, at the late election, as well as those formerly held under our supervision, that all polygamists have been excluded from voting and holding office.

After more than two years' labor and experiences here, it becomes our duty to advise the government and the country that although the law has been successfully administered in respect of the disfranchisement of polygamists, the effect of the same upon the preaching and practice of polygamy has not been to improve the tone of the former or materially diminish the latter. For a year or more after the effort to enforce the law was initiated, polygamic teachings from the pulpit were rarely heard, and there were indications that the practice of polygamy might be expected to at least measurably decline. But during the present year there appears to have been a polygamic revival. The institution is boldly, defiantly defended, and commended by the spiritual teachers, and plural marriages are reported to have increased in number. In order to ascertain whether these reports as to the increase of plural marriages were well founded, circulars were issued some months ago, directed to our registration officers, requesting them to give the names of persons, male and female, in their respective precincts, who, as they might have good reason to believe, had entered into the polygamic relation since the passage of the "Edmunds Act." Our returns to these inquiries are imperfect, there being six counties in which the population is almost exclusively Mormon, and from which we have received no reports. These reports indicate that 196 males and 263 females have entered polygamy since the passage of the law above referred to. There is possibly some significance in the fact that this reported increase in plural marriages seems to be coincident with the completion of the Mormon Temple at Logan, the most prominent and influential city in the northern section of the Territory. The dedication of this Temple was attended with great pomp and ceremony. A large concourse of people assembled there, many of them from a great distance. Mormon fanaticism was blown into a flame, and we have information that polygamic marriages at that time received an additional impetus, and although we have no official data upon which to base a statement, because the