

By Telegraph.

AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 10.—All statements are utterly unfounded that the Western file contain any telegrams from Babcock at New York, Washington or Long Branch, sustaining the theory of complicity with the whiskey ring.

Henry C. Bowen appeared before the examining committee of Plymouth Church to-night, in answer to the summons to appear and testify as to the facts known to him in reference to the charge against Henry Ward Beecher. Bowen read a statement in which he alluded to the unfairness and irregularities of the procedure, but said that as he wished to assist the committee to make the examination thorough and conclusive, he would make the following proposition—

"I propose that three men, within the congregational body be selected, distinguished for their wisdom and impartiality, such for example as President Worsley, President Asa D. Smith, President Fairchild, Judge Lafayette, S. Foster, the Hon. Alpheus Hardy, or the Hon. Julius H. Seelye, men in whose decision the world will feel confidence, who shall be pledged to keep all such evidence secret, before whom only Mr. Beecher and myself shall appear, with our witnesses, and before whom I will consent, without any reserve whatever, and as soon as they can meet, to give in full the evidence which has led me to say I have no doubt Mr. Beecher is guilty of adultery, hypocrisy and perjury. I ask nothing more than that they shall fully consider the questions which you seem to have before you—whether I deserve ecclesiastical censure for my previous silence in reference to Mr. Beecher, and whether I am now justified by the facts in my possession in making what you call my 'infamous allegations and insinuations' about him, made in response to your own demand for a reply to Mr. White's grievances. I am willing to abide by the censure or approval of such a body of men, if Mr. Beecher and Plymouth Church will also submit to their decision. I re-affirm every thing I have stated about Henry Ward Beecher in my previous communication to you, and I am ready to substantiate it before such a tribunal.

"Very respectfully,
(Signed) "HENRY C. BOWEN."

The committee decided not to accept Bowen's proposition because it was not a case between Beecher and Bowen, but between Plymouth Church and Bowen, and should not be withdrawn from the church and taken before strangers.

Bowen asked for ten days in which to consult papers and documents, dates and memoranda, referring to the case, after which he would answer any questions that might be proposed to him.

The committee adopted resolutions in which they refuse to accede to Bowen's request for further adjournment and urge him to state any facts in support of his allegations against Beecher's character.

Bowen then read a paper in which he declined to answer questions to-night, after which he withdrew.

WASHINGTON, 10.—A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, sent to the House of Representatives to-day, shows that from the passage of the act for the resumption of specie payments, namely, January 14, 1875, to Dec., 1875, the amount of silver bullion purchased was 8,473,023 ounces, at a cost of \$9,390,446 in gold. The highest price paid per ounce March 15, one dollar, thirteen cents, and eight mills, and the lowest, July 14, one dollar, seven cents, and one mill, the American price being nearly one dollar, eight cents, and three mills per ounce.

Section four of the bill granting extension of time for the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad is as follows—

"That the extension of time granted by section one of this act shall not apply to the branch line of said road from Lake Pond d' Oreille across the Cascade Mountains to Puget Sound in Washington Territory; and at the expiration of the time allowed by existing laws for the construction of said branch line as heretofore granted therefor, and not then earned by said company by constructing said branch line of road, shall be restored to the public domain, to be dealt with as other public lands and under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior."

The Secretary of the Treasury sent to the House of Representatives, to-day, in response to the resolution of Jan. 21, a detailed statement showing the actual amount of cash on hand in the treasury, the several depositories, and the mints on the 25th January, 1876. The total amount is \$190,778,043. The Secretary says that as legal tender notes received for redemption, and national bank notes do not belong to the U. S., their amount is not in any way embraced in the monthly debt statement of the department. The amount of 5 per cent. bonds sold to October 2d, 1875, in obedience to the resumption act is, interest included, \$15,705,855. The silver purchased by the Treasury Department has been paid for with the proceeds of the 5 per cent. bonds sold, and balance of the proceeds of the said bonds, together with the revenues of the government, has been applied to the retirement of legal tenders, as provided by the specie resumption act.

The contraction of legal tender and national bank currency since the passage of the act, January 14, 1875, amounts to \$20,768,752.

BOSTON, 10.—The second trial of Piper, for the murder of Mah-l Young, terminated to-day. Verdict, guilty of murder in the first degree.

Executive Office,
W. U. Tel. Co.,
NEW YORK, Feb. 10, 1876.

To Editors—My attention has been called within a few days to press reports passing over our wires from Washington, containing statements to the effect that the recent application to the United States Court at St. Louis to have the requirements of one of several subpoenas which had been served upon the company made more explicit, was really made for the purpose of preventing a disclosure of what was considered by me as damaging testimony to Gen. Babcock; that my recent trip to Washington was made upon or in connection with this business; and that while at Washington I had admitted that the records of the Western Union Company at New York or Long Branch, recently examined by me, pursuant to the subpoena, contained messages between Babcock and members of the ring, which show conclusively that Babcock is guilty. As reports containing some of these allegations have already been published, I deem it due alike to public and private justice to say, concerning the matters referred to in these reports—

First—The application made to the courts in behalf of the company at St. Louis was not at the instigation, solicitation, or suggestion of General Babcock, nor of any person acting in his behalf, nor was my trip to Washington on that business.

Second—No effort has ever been made by or in behalf of General Babcock to prevent the company from furnishing all messages in its custody that have been called for by process issued from any court and all such have been furnished.

Third—Search made through the New York and Long Branch files failed to find a single message, either covered by subpoena or outside of it, which related to any of the cases at St. Louis.

Fourth—It follows necessarily that I have not stated to any person anywhere that the records of this company contained evidence conclusive of the guilt of General Babcock. I have stated in a few instances exactly the contrary.

WILLIAM ORTON.
The Congregational Church in Andover theological seminary, voted on Wednesday night to invite Plymouth Church to unite with them in an ecclesiastical council for investigation in the accusations made against Rev. Henry Ward Beecher. This vote expresses simply the church's sense of the need of an examination, and of the injurious influence of delay. The importance of the action is suggested by the fact that this church is connected with the oldest congregational theological seminary with which have been associated more than one third of the acting Congregational ministers and more than 8,000 clergymen.

BALTIMORE, Md., 10.—Reverdy Johnson, the distinguished statesman and jurist, was found dead this eve, at 8.15, in the grounds surrounding the executive mansion at Annapolis.

ANNAPOLIS, 10.—Mr. Johnson came here last night to argue the case of Baker vs. Frick, argued in the court of appeals to-day. By invitation of Gov. Carroll, he became his guest at the executive mansion. To-day the Governor invited Chief Justice Barton of this State and several other gentlemen to meet Mr. Johnson at dinner at the mansion. They dined about 5 p. m. At dinner Mr. Johnson appeared in excellent spirits and his usual health and entertained the company by his conversation and relating anecdotes at dinner. He took one glass of Madeira and refused to take any more. After dinner he suddenly asked the Governor to take him in the parlor. He took the Governor's arm and walking in there sat down on the sofa. At the request of Mr. Johnson the Governor re-joined the guests at table. Shortly after a servant appeared at the door and beckoning the Governor out told him Mr. Johnson was lying in the yard on the stones. Gov. Carroll went immediately to the place and found Mr. Johnson lying on the cobblestone carriage-way that passes under the porch of the mansion, close up to the wall and close to the door leading into the basement. He had evidently gone down the front steps and around to the side of the house and fallen where found about 8.15 p. m. The impression is that he had been there at least half an hour. He was then dead and was bleeding profusely from wounds on the right side of his head and face. His body was at once removed into the basement room and physicians were summoned. Dr. Wm. G. Tuck was the first to arrive, and after examining the body pronounced life extinct; Drs. Ridout and Clark arrived afterwards. There are large wounds on the right side of the forehead, two fractures of the skull from the upper portion of the forehead to the eyebrow, a dislocation of the finger on the left hand, and cuts on the hands and legs, and bruises. The physicians are examining the body to determine the cause of death.

Mr. Johnson would have been 80 years old next May.

SAN FRANCISCO, 10.—Dispatches from various parts of the state agree as to the severity of the recent storm. In Los Angeles county all communication is cut off, except with the coast. Stage from San Diego in crossing a creek was swept out to sea. No lives lost. The brig *Kolosa* and bark *Nicholas Bidle*, lying at Wilmington, are stranded and total losses. Crews saved. In Colusa the levees broke by the flood in the Sacramento river. The whole country in the vicinity is under water. There is much loss of stock, but none of human life reported. At port Oxford the schooner *Harriet Rowe* is ashore, a total loss. It is still snowing in the mountains and the northern portion of the State.

At a meeting yesterday of gentlemen interested in establishing a clearing house, Milton S. Latham was elected president of the clearing house, Ignatz Steinbart secretary, Mills, McKinlay, Low, and King managing committee. Nearly all the banks signified their intention of joining, except the Nevada bank.

NEW YORK, 11.—The suit of the First National Bank of Springfield, Ills., against Chas. A. Dana, to recover interest on \$5,000, goes up on appeal to the general term and probably to the court of appeals.

A Havana letter of recent date says the government has arrested some twenty persons in different classes of society for being in correspondence with Cuban refugees in New York. Among them is Don Quillerma de Sotolongo. Letters were seized by the police in the hands of one of the post office carriers, and clerks at the post office have been examined. It is said important discoveries have been made and that many persons hitherto supposed to be good Spaniards, are implicated.

BALTIMORE, 11.—Further details of Reverdy Johnson's death are received. For a long time his eyesight has been feeble. Still he persisted in moving about without assistance. It is evident that, desiring to go into the Executive Mansion yard, he started alone, without asking aid, walked down the house steps, across the grass plat, and appears to have stumbled from his feet, only as there was no elevation from which to fall, it is supposed he trod on some loose pieces of coal, and thus lost his footing, and that his head struck the edge of the projected base of the foundation wall, causing a fractured skull. The chief fatal injury is the fracture of the frontal bone, extending from near the outer angle of the right orbit upward and backward to the coronal suture. The tragic occurrence causes great grief and gloom. Mr. Johnson was in excellent general health yesterday.

CHICAGO, 11.—The *Times*' Ottawa special says the Dominion Parliament opened yesterday with the usual imposing ceremonies. The speech from the throne was delivered by Lord Dufferin in the senate chamber. The speech makes no mention of the Pacific Railway further than that papers connected therewith will be submitted. It announces a deficit in the revenue of the Dominion, which will necessitate a revision of the tariff and curtailment of expenditures in all departments of public service. This is looked upon as foreshadowing the total abandonment of the Pacific Railway.

The *Times*' Sioux City special says the excitement over the Black Hills news lately received is on the increase. Parties are fitting out and getting ready to depart. A company has been formed to start about the 21st of this month. The leaders profess to have positive assurance that the military will not only not interfere, but will assist them under certain circumstances.

ANNAPOLIS, 11.—Dr. Steener, who examined the body of Reverdy Johnson shortly after it was found, gives the following as his theory of the cause of death—

Mr. Johnson either stumbled over a piece of coal, or being seized with vertigo or incipient symptoms of apoplexy, and striving to save himself, moved towards the west, staggering along by the northerly side of the executive mansion, at each step his body gaining momentum, so that having reached the door into the basement, he swayed around to the south and fell, his head striking against the sharp corner of the granite base of the house, which gave the first wound on the head. Reaching the pavement of rough cobble stones, a second wound was received in front of the first. At this instant probably the bones of the nose were fractured and one joint of the second finger of the right hand was dislocated. Whether the subsequent struggle may account for the abrasions on knees and fingers of the left hand cannot be positively asserted. The wounds in the scalp were accompanied with fractures of the external bones of the cranium and base of skull, also with the probable rupture of some arteries at the base. Death must have resulted instantly.

Mr. Gwinne, attorney general of the state, and son-in-law of Mr. Johnson, is of opinion he was seized with vertigo and fell, as he had a similar attack lasting three hours while attending a trial in South Carolina several years ago. When the General Assembly met to-day, it was immediately informed by a communication from Governor Carroll, of the death of Mr. Johnson. Both Houses at once adjourned and will assemble in the hall of the House at three o'clock, then go to the Executive Mansion and escort the remains to the depot, where they will be taken to Baltimore in a special car. The Governor said in his communication, Mr. Johnson died from an unaccountable and unwitnessed accident.

WASHINGTON, 11.—The official treasury statement shows the total imports in December last nearly six and a half millions less than in December, 1874; total exports, specie and bullion, in December, 1875, less than two and a half millions, against twelve and three quarters in 1874. Other exports increased last December a million, three hundred thousand, gold value, over the December preceding.

The House committee on public lands, have substantially agreed to report a bill making lands granted the Pacific Railway Companies liable to local taxation as soon as earned by said companies, but it is not likely to seek that aim through compelling the railroads to receive patents on pain of forfeiture.

The House bill for the taxation of railroad lands provides that if a company refuses to pay costs of surveying they may be paid by any purchaser of the tax sale and constitute a lien on the patent, which shall thereupon be issued to the company.

Judge Billings, just confirmed by the Senate, will hold court in New Orleans the third Monday in Feb-

ruary. No business in bankruptcy and maritime cases has been transacted in the district court for Louisiana since the resignation of Judge Durell.

The fact that Senator Bruce denounced President Grant yesterday in executive session, charging him with indifference to the Southern colored republicans and with having unjustly taken sides against them in Mississippi, occasions much comment. It is said the President, on hearing of the remarks, sent for Bruce, but his friends say he will not accept such invitations as he considers the breach between them too wide to be closed.

SYRACUSE, 11.—Owen Lindsay, convicted of the murder of Francis A. Colvin, was hanged to-day in the prison yard. Lindsay persisted to the last in declaring his innocence.

BALTIMORE, 11.—Mayor Latrobe this morning issued an order convening the city council in extra session this evening that the municipal authorities may give expression to the great loss sustained in the death of Reverdy Johnson. Flags of all public buildings are at half mast. In the U. S. district court this morning, the death of Johnson was announced, and the court immediately adjourned. The Baltimore bar and bench meet to-morrow.

WASHINGTON, 11.—The report, prevalent to-day that the President had sent for Senator Bruce of Mississippi (colored), who denounced him in the Senate executive session yesterday, is untrue. The President, aside from other considerations, is not supposed to know anything of the debates in such sessions, which are regarded as confidential, though the Senator himself to-day, on being interrogated, admitted that he made the attack, and said he would repeat his remarks in open session. Bruce has seen the President only once since the 20th of December, and then only on routine business.

The chairman of the committee on ways and means has addressed the following note to the clerk of the committee of the House of Representatives—

"Washington, D. C.,
"February 10, 1876:
"Dr. J. P. Hambleton, Clerk of the Ways and Means Committee:

"Sir.—The charge so often made and as often denied by you, that you had named a son after the assassin of Mr. Lincoln, I have until now wholly disbelieved. Recent developments, which show your son to have been named or recognized by the name of John W. B. Hambleton, gives at least a semblance of truth to the charge. With the slightest appearance of the truth of such a charge I have but one duty to perform, and that is to accept your resignation, offered some time ago, which I do hereby.

"Respectfully yours,
W. R. MORRISON,

"Chairman of Committee on Ways and Means."

NEW YORK, 11.—John H. Bush, another fireman, injured in the fire on Tuesday eve, died to-day.

At the adjourned annual meeting of Plymouth church to-night, the examining committee was instructed to summon Bowen before them, after giving him ten days notice of trial. He will then be asked to state all he knows in support of the charges made in his letter.

Mr. Beecher said he was far from feeling in a spirited humor. A controversy between a pastor and a member of a church was a very sad thing to have. A quarrel was to him in the nature of a funeral sermon. Mr. Bowen was one of the oldest members of the church, but he must not forget that Mr. Bowen's threshold was the first he crossed on coming to Brooklyn. He could not think of anything more sad than to find a man, with whom he had walked arm in arm, and with whom he had taken sweet counsel and in whose hospitality he had shared, turned against him.

Mr. Beecher had thus far spoken very quietly and sadly, but now he burst forth in thundering tones, throwing into his words all the vehemence possible to him. He said that if, for the last fifteen years or more, Mr. Bowen had been in possession of these facts and he never brought them before him, or before an officer of the church, he was guilty of breaking his covenant with the church, and he ought to be expelled. If he, the speaker, was what he was alleged to be, he