

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

THE DISCUSSION OF THE TARIFF.

WASHINGTON, May 14.—If the programme outlined by the democratic majority of the ways and means committee holds good the coming week the House will be entirely devoted to the great debate on the tariff bill. Tuesday had been set apart for the consideration of labor bills but in pursuance of an arrangement the committee on labor is to have another day at a later date. The interest in the discussion promises to increase as the week which will end the debate draws to a close, owing to the fact that several of the leading spirits on both sides of the House are announced to speak.

The pension appropriation bill, the Cincinnati exposition bill, the pleuropneumonia bill and the bill for the admission of Washington Territory are measures which more than any others, bid fair to occupy the time of the Senate open session during the week, and they are likely if reached at all to come up in the order named.

A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

was offered in the House today by Neal (Tennessee) proposing to extend the term of office of President and Vice-President to six years, and to make the President ineligible for a second term.

CALIFORNIA AND THE TARIFF.

Representatives Bragg and Thompson, of California, have had a conference with the chairman and members of the committee on ways and means. Thompson expressed the intention of making the following amendments affecting California interests, to the pending tariff bill: Bags for grain, hops, wool and ores, made dutiable by the bill at 15 per cent, to be placed on the free list; olive oil, on the free list, to be made dutiable at 30 or 35 per cent; raisins at two cents per pound, plums and prunes at one cent per pound, and borax at two or three cents per pound.

BENSON, VS. MEXICO.

The Supreme Court rendered an opinion in the case of George Benson appellant, vs. Juan N. Navarro, Mexican consul-general and the republic of Mexico. This is an application for a writ of habeas corpus brought here by appeal from the circuit court for the southern district of New York, that court having denied the application for the writ. This suit is known as the Patti ticket swindling case of the City of Mexico.

The court also rendered an opinion denying the application of Coy & Bernhamer for a writ of habeas corpus. These cases are better known as the tally sheet election fraud cases, and grow out of the frauds alleged to have been committed in Marian County, Indiana, in the election last November. Coy and Bernhamer were convicted of complicity in the frauds, and it was contended on behalf of the prisoners that the federal court had no jurisdiction to try them, as the alleged election frauds concerned only the county ticket, and did not affect the congressional election. Opinion by Justice Miller, with Justice Field dissenting.

THE TELEPHONE CASE.

The Supreme Court denied the application for a rehearing of the telephone case. This application was made by the People's and Overland Telephone companies, who claim that Drawbaugh and not Bell was the first inventor of the telephone. Justice Miller announced the opinion of the court orally. He simply said as none of the three Justices who had concurred in the opinion of Chief Justice Waite, upholding the validity of Bell's patent, had requested a rehearing, and that as it was the settled rule of the court not to grant rehearings unless this was done, the application must be denied.

The move for the reopening of the case against the Bell Telephone, was decided adversely in the Supreme Court today. This leaves the Bell people in full possession of the telephone field. There is a lurking suspicion that somebody who holds close relations with some members of the Supreme Court gave out the verdict of the court in advance of the rendering of the decision. At any rate, it is certain that the big stockholders in the Bell Company knew what the verdict was going to be early last week, and manipulated the stock accordingly.

GOVERNMENT VS. THE C. P.

The Supreme Court of the United States, appellant, vs. McLaughlin et al., from the circuit court of the United States for the Northern District of California. Suit was brought in this case by the government against the Central Pacific Railroad Company and McLaughlin et al., as holders of patents for lands lying along the route of the railroad between Stockton and Sacramento, and claimed to be part of the grant to the railroad company. The government claimed that the patents were issued for this land as railroad land by mistake. The mistake was that the land was within the exterior boundaries of the Mexican grant known as the Moquelokma's grant, which formed the basis of the contest. The railroad company contended the eastern boundary was only intended to go to the foot hills, which would make the territory described contain nearly twice the amount granted. Grants of that kind, it was explained, of a certain quantity to be located in a large area, are called floating grants. The government contended that lands with-

In the exterior boundaries of this grant were reserved from sale or other disposition, being under examination in the courts, and that the railroad grant did not take effect at any point within the exterior limits of this Mexican grant the railroad having been located across the grant. This was true with regard to public reservations of lands such as Indian or military reservations. It was also true with regard to Mexican grants of specific lands while they were under examination, but the company contended that floating grants were not subject to this and hence obtained patents to the land in dispute. The court decided that the eastern boundary of the Mexican grant was as the railroad company claimed it to be, and therefore most of the lands were outside its exterior limits, and as to them the patent was valid. Second, that the law of the reservation did not apply to the floating grant further than to satisfy the quantity granted, and therefore the remaining lands in dispute were also free and the patent was good as to them also. The decree of the court is affirmed, and it is further ordered that this decree be entered, *nunc pro tunc*, as of October 10, 1877.

Case 11 and 12 involved the same points as those set forth in the above, and was decided similarly.

Justice Miller announced the following order: It is now ordered that all cases on the docket not decided, and other business of the term not disposed of by the court be and the same are hereby continued until the next term of the court.

A PATENT ISSUED.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office today, by direction of the Secretary of the Interior, transmitted to the Surveyor General of California, for delivery to the confinees, Joseph E. Emery, Nathan W. Spaulding, administrators of the estate of Abner Bassett, deceased, and Mary Ann Bassett, widow, the patent for the private land claim known as the Rancho San Jose Cliquito. The claim is located in Monterey County, and has a front on the Pacific ocean of about fifteen miles. It embraces an area of about 8189 acres. It is the first California private land claim patented during the present administration.

THE FISHERIES TREATY.

The Senate spent three hours in secret legislative session discussing the Riddleberger resolution for the open consideration of the fisheries treaty and the Hoar resolution for a stenographic report of the debate, to be made public at the option of the Senate. Both were defeated, the democrats voting solidly against them and the republicans dividing according to their individual preferences. The consideration of the fisheries treaty was further postponed till next Monday.

ABOUT FULLER.

Some excitement has been caused by the discovery that a printing office here has just turned out a pamphlet giving the reason why Mr. Fuller should not be confirmed as chief justice. The man who ordered the pamphlet printed gave his name as C. H. Parker, and his residence as the Riggs House. Inquiry at the latter place shows that he is not a guest there. What motive actuated him is not known. The pamphlet consists mainly of newspaper extracts.

PANAMA, May 14.—George Bach, a long time with the Pacific Mail Steamship Company as purser, committed suicide from the *Crescent City* at sea. He was in failing health and it is believed took his life while insane. Ten days previously the purser's clerk of the steamer *San Jose* on the Pacific fleet of the same company committed suicide by jumping overboard in the harbor.

INDIANAPOLIS, May 14.—Alfred Wilson, delegate to the general conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church here, became a raving maniac while attending religious services on Sunday morning, and made attempts to do violence to members of the congregation. Several men were required to overpower him, and he was carried to the house of a friend, where he died three hours afterwards.

CHICAGO, May 14.—There was a cable car smash-up in the tunnel this morning. The car jumped the track in the middle of the tunnel and another crashed upon it scattering the passengers, crushing the conductor Edward Lash between the cars and the wall. He was badly mangled and will probably die. Others are bruised but not seriously hurt.

CHICAGO, May 14.—Claus Spreckles, who is sixty years old, and has made himself a millionaire many times over, said last night he had only just begun his life work. This is the establishment in America of the beet sugar industry on a basis that will permanently benefit agriculturalists and incidentally, it is his purpose to annihilate the sugar trust. Today at Philadelphia he will meet the engineers and draftsmen who are at work on the plans for his new refinery in that city. With these additional facilities Mr. Spreckles said he would soon be able to supply half of all the sugar consumed in the United States. He was confident he could make sugar cheaper than the trust. The failure of the beet root sugar experiments in America he attributed to the lack of experience. The few skilled workmen imported were not familiar with all the steps of the process. This is where Mr. Spreckles claims to have the advantage. He trains his men personally for each department and has made the raising of beet root sugar a success in California.

Equally good results, he declares, can be obtained throughout the east and by affording a ready market he is prepared to prove that the farmer who is extremely fortunate if he gets \$10 for an acre of wheat may get \$100 for the same acre if the crop is sugar beets and at the same time enrich and not impoverish the soil.

LONDON, May 14.—The House of Lords was crowded this afternoon with people who desired to hear Lord Wolseley's defense. Wolseley said he could not see how an unprejudiced person could construe his remarks into an attack upon the government. In the position which he occupied in the administration of the army, he could not fail to be fully aware of what Stanhope had done and was doing to render the army efficient. He admitted the present government had done much toward improving the military defense. He still adhered to the evidence given before the commission of inquiry, word for word, and had nothing whatever to withdraw. As long as the navy was as weak as it was now, the army could not hold its own, dispersed as it was all over the world. The defenses at home and abroad were in a bad condition. The military forces were not organized as they should be; they did not even guarantee the safety of the capital. He did not want to create a panic, but he maintained that the condition of the country was such that if a force of 100,000 men succeeded in effecting a landing and were properly handled, there was no reason why they might not take possession of the country. He made this statement with a full appreciation of his responsibility. He had been tempted to resign on Saturday afternoon on reading what Lord Salisbury had said. The House could not take the initiative in the matter, but he placed himself in the hands of the Premier. He did not intend to cast a slur upon the government. He had endeavored to the best of his lights, to serve his sovereign and his country. [Cheers.]

LORD SALISBURY

held his strictures upon Lord Wolseley's at a recent dinner were fully warranted. At the same time he accepted Lord Wolseley's disavowal of any intention to attack the government. He only hoped if Lord Wolseley had occasion to assail the administration in the future he would do so in the House. He trusted Lord Wolseley would not take the matter too seriously. He would regard the general's leaving the service as the greatest blow that could fall on the military administration. Lord Wolseley's statement regarding the weakness of the country's defense would be seriously inquired into. Meantime, he deprecated the practice of officers speaking over the heads of the government and thus destroying ministerial authority and shattering the administrative machine. [Hear! hear!]

ENGLAND AND THE POPE.

The *Chronicle's* Rome correspondent telegraphs he has heard officially that the semi-official relations between England and the Vatican are to be restored in the autumn.

PANAMA, May 14.—The Pacific Mail steamer brings news of a large nitrate ship abandoned at sea. It is reported to be an iron ship of about 1,000 tons, loaded with nitrate worth 20,000 francs. Three ships were sent out from Callao to look for her. None were successful in the search.

BUFFALO, N. Y., May 15.—The state committee will meet tonight and fix upon a temporary organization for the republican convention tomorrow. It is said to be the disposition to make Warner Miller temporary chairman.

Ex-Senator Arkell favors a solidification of national delegates for Depew. He wants Depew to be a candidate of the delegation until he is nominated, or until it is clear that the Western States will not have him, and then he would have Depew arise and turn the delegation over solid for Blaine.

There is developed among Blaine's whilom, and even his present adherents, an impatient petulance at what is termed the "burrowing" tactics by which many delegates feel that they are being kept in the dark or being misled as to whether he is actually a candidate.

The statement is made on what seems good authority today that Depew will not attend the convention.

Gen. Husted and many others oppose any formal declarations or commitments of the party at this convention.

Thomas Platt says he sees no question on which the convention could be divided. He believes no effort will be made to pledge the delegation for any man.

MONMOUTH, Ill., May 14.—This vicinity was visited by a cold snap Saturday. Ice formed in the basins three-quarters of an inch thick. The frost was heavy. New potatoes, tomatoes, apples and early vegetables were killed.

GALBURG, Ill., May 14.—The cold was so severe here Saturday night that the ground was frozen and ice formed. There was great damage done to vegetation and small fruits. Such corn as was up was blown down.

MARQUETTE, Mich., May 14.—A snow and sleet storm has prevailed for the last twenty-four hours, and snow is still falling rapidly.

MUSKOGEE, Iowa, May 14.—There was a tragedy on Saturday at Kialiga Springs. John Smith has lately been attentive to Mrs. Allen, the wife of a neighbor. While Allen was away Thursday, Smith and Mrs. Allen eloped. Allen armed and went in pursuit. After a chase of forty miles, he

overtook them and shot them both to death. Smith was a white man, Mrs. Allen a Creek.

CHICAGO, May 14.—The mystery of General Martin Beem's death was tonight made more peculiar than ever by the action of the Veteran Union League organization which undertook to investigate the matter. The report from the committee charged with the task was submitted to the meeting of the League this evening. The gist of the report was that General Beem had been murdered, but that no blame was attached to his wife. No explanation was vouchsafed for such a state of affairs. The committee asked for additional time to probe deeper into the subject. By a vote of the league this was granted, but later a reconsideration was moved and the committee discharged, thus apparently shelving the whole business so far as General Beem's old comrades are concerned. A feature of the meeting was the reading of a strong letter from Mrs. Beem demanding virtually a vindication or prosecution.

CHICAGO, May 14.—Dispatches from the Associated Press from several rivers give accounts of great losses to property owners and vast inundations about six miles above Quincy, Illinois. On the Missouri side the break at Alexandria has caused a great sea, covering 800,000 acres of land, in the midst of which is a modern Venice with impromptu crafts of all kinds and sizes. The water floods the town of Alexandria from two to six feet deep. The people were in a manner prepared for the flood, and the suffering is not great.

The situation at Keokuk is becoming very serious, the railroad yards being entirely submerged and many mills being compelled to shut down.

At Burlington, Vevanport, and other points the water at 10 o'clock tonight is within a few inches of the highest mark known and is steadily rising. Many establishments near the river are flooded and goods are being hurriedly removed. Hopes are expressed that the rise will cease soon.

LONDON, May 14.—A volcanic eruption and waterspout have occurred in New Pomerania, New Guinea, doing immense damage. Three Germans and many natives were killed.

FOUNTAIN, Col., May 14.—A horrible railway casualty occurred here at 2:45 here this morning. At 2:41 the north-bound "Thunderbolt" stopped at the station for orders. She had hardly come to a standstill when a caboose with four loaded freight cars, which had broken away from a through freight at Colorado Springs, thirteen miles away, came dashing down the long grade at lightning speed; crashing into the express, and piling the caboose and first car in the ruins on top of the engine and baggage car. In the car next to the caboose was a huge tank of naphtha, which being wrecked scattered the oil all over. The depot, the cars and adjoining buildings caught fire, and in an instant everything was in a sheet of flames. The engineer and fireman escaped somewhat injured. The Pullman and two day coaches were hastily detached from the burning baggage car and run down the track to a safe distance from the fire, which had now enveloped the depot and was rapidly approaching the last car of the runaway freight, when the alarm was given that this car was loaded with powder, and for everyone to run for their lives.

All who heard the warning attempted to obey, but had gone but a short distance when 17,000 pounds of giant powder, with which the car was loaded, exploded, shaking the earth like an earthquake. Twenty houses in the city were almost totally destroyed, together with the new Baptist church, which was blown from its foundation and scattered over acres of ground. Men and women were knocked senseless and pieces of broken rails, car wheels and timbers were carried with terrific force for half a mile. A number of freight cars standing on the side track were blown to atoms. The passengers in the "Thunderbolt" were severely shaken up and a number cut by pieces of glass for the windows, but none were seriously injured. The yard of the Newton Lumber Company took fire and was completely destroyed. The people standing a quarter of a mile from the explosion were hit by flying fragments and badly wounded.

The dead are C. F. Smith, manager of the Newton Lumber Company. He was trying to extinguish the flames at the depot when the explosion occurred and badly wounded him. He died in an hour. A piece of iron was blown through his body making a hole two inches in diameter.

The burned remains of an unknown man were found underneath the engine after the fire was extinguished. Lawrence Weichert, a German carpenter, while assisting to put out the fire in the lumber yard, was struck on the head with flying timbers. Concussion of the brain resulted and he died in a short time.

Mrs. Weldridge, while standing 600 yards from the track, was struck on the head by a flying bolt and died in two hours.

H. Hutchinson, a merchant, aged 60 years, while standing in a door some distance away, was struck by a bar of iron. He died this afternoon.

The wounded number about 30. None of them will die, although all are painfully wounded. The loss to the town, which is completely ruined, is estimated at \$60,000, while the amount of loss to the railroad company is variously estimated at from \$75,000 to \$100,000. All the wounded are residents of this place except W. Knight, of St. Louis,

and J. C. Mann, of Tombstone, who had their faces badly cut.

READING, Pa., May 15.—A Reading Railroad train was wrecked this morning near Shenandoah. A stone was firmly wedged in a frog at Moss Creek. The first freight consisting of an engine and two cars, came along. The engine struck the frog, bounded up and off the track, plunged headlong down a twenty foot embankment, followed by the cars. Engineer James Houghton was scalded and crushed to death in his cab. Fireman John Welsh was badly scalded; he may not live. The engine and cars were completely wrecked.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 15.—Eleven persons have been killed and thirty injured by a collision on the Moscow and Kursk railway.

NEW YORK, 14.—Captain Franquill of the steamer *La Bourgoyne* which arrived today, reports having on Friday passed the steamer *Servia* off Newfoundland. She bore no evidence of being disabled. The Cunard agents in this city have no confirmation of the report from London regarding the loss of the *Servia*.

All fears regarding the safety of the Cunard steamer *Servia* and the 1,154 passengers, ended this morning when the steamer safely arrived at this port, only a few hours overdue.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 15.—The Queen of Greece, it is expected, will soon pay a three months' visit to this city. Her daughter, Princess Alexandra, will marry the Grand Duke Paul, the Czar's youngest brother. Russia has invited the powers to send twelve delegates each to attend the August military maneuvers.

A Warsaw engineer has invented a gun capable of firing sixty-two shots a minute.

LAFAYETTE, Ind., May 14.—Frank Atkire and Edward Foster, well known young farmers living in the northern part of this county, went fishing with dynamite cartridges Saturday night at the mouth of the Tippecanoe River. While each held cartridges in his hand, Foster let his fall and both exploded. Foster's right hand was torn off and his eye put out. Atkire's right arm was carried away and both eyes blinded. Both were severely burned. Atkire is unconscious and cannot live.

BALTIMORE, May 14.—An engine of the B. & O. exploded today at Cumberland killing the engineer, J. J. Woodruff of Martinsburg, West Virginia, who was blown into fragments.

LONGCOLN, Neb., May 15.—Hon. Jas Laird has been renominated to Congress in the second Nebraska district.

FOUNTAIN, Col., May 15.—The coroner's jury, after viewing the dead last night, adjourned to meet at Colorado Springs tomorrow. The loss to the town is estimated at \$60,000; the railroad company's loss is estimated from \$25,000 to \$100,000. Officers of the Santa Fe Company insist that the brakes on the cars which caused the explosion, were released by a tramp.

ELVIRA, Ohio, May 15.—James Smith, has been jailed for beating his wife to death. Smith is 30 years old and his wife but 15. Smith assaulted his wife because she wanted to go to a dance.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—A cable message was delivered this morning from United States Consul Lewis at Tangiers, saying that all questions of disagreement between Morocco and the United States had been settled and that he has gained all the points contended for.

Senator Evarts today introduced a joint resolution authorizing the President, in case of a final failure of the diplomatic efforts to effect an amicable settlement, to take such other measures as in his judgment may be necessary to collect indemnity from the Venezuelan government for losses suffered by the Venezuelan Steam Transportation Company, of New York by reason of the forcible seizure and employment in war of the company's steamers *Hero*, *San Fernando* and *Nartrias* by the Venezuelan belligerents in 1871.

TRENTON, N. J., May 16.—Vice-Chancellor Bird yesterday decided the case of the Hutchins heirs against Henry George. A clause in the will leaving Henry George a bequest for the purpose of aiding him in the circulation of his peculiar ideas and theories among the people was declared void. A point made by contestants was that it was neither a charitable, benevolent nor an educational bequest. The court said that George advocated practices with respect to real estate in violation of the laws of the land, he could not sanction the spreading of such sentiment, and the will therefore was broken.

PARIS, May 16.—General Boulanger has completed his tour and returned to Paris. A large crowd met him at the depot and followed him to his hotel, uttering mingled cries of "Vive Boulanger," "A bas Boulanger."

BERLIN, May 16.—The Emperor now walks with a much firmer step, his handwriting is bolder and in all respects he appears to be stronger. Berlin dispatch: A dispatch from St. Petersburg to the *Kreuz Zeitung* says preparations are being made to occupy Herat.

Paris dispatch: In the Chamber today the debate on the bill imposing duties on Indian corn was contradictory to an extraordinary degree. The first principle of levying duty was approved, the Chamber agreed to exempt from duty all kinds of maize, and finally the bill was rejected in its entirety. Maurice said these proceedings proved the importance of the Chamber and afforded fresh argument in favor of the necessity of dissolution.

Chicago dispatch: The candle factory