

package the number and name of the articles enclosed. The sending of public documents through the mails has not detained the delivery of ordinary mails or perceptibly increased their cost. As to transient printed matter, the Postmaster General says, "I recommend that the postage of transient newspapers and periodicals, books, printed matter of all sorts, lithographs and maps, sheet music, photographs, and manuscripts designed for publication, shall be reduced to one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof, which was the rate before the enactment of the law advancing it during the closing hours of the last Congress. Concerning newspaper postage he says the new law, which went into effect on the first of January 1875, from present indications, will realize about one million dollars for the first calendar year. It is recommended that the compensation of postmasters of the fourth class be based upon the business of their respective offices, as determined by the cancellation of stamps, the account to be duly sworn to for each quarter and returned to the sixth auditor. There is a great want of equity in the compensation of postmasters of first, second, and third class. If the salaries at the smaller offices are not excessive, those of the larger cities are certainly too low. I find postmasters as a class to be efficient, capable, and attentive beyond my expectations, and their salaries should be proportionate to their duties.

"In estimating the expected revenues for the year ending June 30th, 1877, wishing to be on the safe side, estimates have been submitted which show an expected deficiency of \$8,181,602, but it is believed the deficiency last year will be much less than the estimates. Basing the estimate of revenues at the smallest amount and of expenditures at the largest, an increase is shown in the percentage of the deficiency only of 19 thirty-nine one hundredths against 24 sixty-five one hundredths, which was the estimate of the percentage of deficiency last year over that of its predecessor.

A large number of additional removals in the clerical force of the Interior Department were ordered to-day.

DETROIT, 1.—The steamer *Phil Sheridan* has been burned on Lake Erie yesterday. No lives lost. Valued at \$30,000, insured for \$20,000 against fire.

NATICK, Mass., 1.—At the conclusion of the private service at the house, preparations were at once made for removing the remains to the Town Hall, and where the public and final ceremonies were to take place. These were soon accomplished, and by the appointed hour the casket had been placed on the catafalque and the mourners had been assigned to seats especially reserved for them. A special train had in the interim arrived from Boston, bearing the Governor, a portion of his staff, and several members of the executive council committee of Boston city, Hon. Marshal Winslow, Congressman Henry Pierce, and the officers of the Fifth Maryland regiment and of the Independent Corps of Cadets, also the Boston Fusiliers, who volunteered as an escort for the day. A procession was formed and the distinguished guests were escorted to the hall, a great crowd filling every available portion from which to view its progress through the streets. The mourners having been assigned seats at the right of the platform, the invited guests were seated in rows in the body of the hall, the pall bearers, who were townspeople on the left, the grand army post standing to the extreme left, and citizens thronging into the remaining area and packing the galleries. About two thousand found admittance to the edifice while the seating capacity was limited to 200. Rev. Francis M. Ploubet, Mr. Wilson's pastor, opened the services by reading the hymn, "God is our strength," beginning with the words, "Man in his weakness needs a stronger stay than fellow man, the holiest and the best," which was sung by the Alpine quadrille of Boston. Following this was the invocation by Rev. A. E. Reynolds, and scripture readings by Rev. J. S. Wheadon, to which the response, "Abide with me," was sung by a quadrille. The address was delivered by the Rev. Edmund Dause, of Sherburne, who mainly touched upon his intimate personal friendship with the deceased, and the great qual-

ities of the latter, as displayed in the midst of the people who had known and were intimate with him from his youth. The quartette then chanted a poem, written for the occasion. An address by the Rev. M. Ploubet followed, consisting of personal reminiscences of Mr. Wilson. The hymn, "Nearer My God to Thee," which was an especial favorite with Mr. Wilson, and in singing which the entire audience joined, was given with grand effect. The benediction by Mr. Peloubet closed the last rites over the remains of the Vice President.

The procession then formed in line of march, embracing nearly every street in the town. It was not until four o'clock that the hearse bearing the remains reached the grave in Dell Park Cemetery. The casket was transferred from the hearse and conveyed to the side of the open grave, ready to receive it. The grand army post formed a square about the grave while the military escort were drawn up in line in the drive way. The mourners and invited guests having assembled in a body, the band meanwhile playing a solemn dirge, the casket was gently lowered to its final resting place. Mr. Peloubet pronounced the benediction, the relatives and friends took the last look, dropped a few flowers upon the casket lid, and the last rites attending the demise of Henry Wilson, Vice-President of the United States, were at an end.

BUFFALO, N. Y., 1.—The Atlantic express for the east, which left here at 1:50 p.m., collided at the Batavia street crossing, four miles from the city, with an eastern bound freight train, throwing a smoking car and the first and second coaches, well filled with passengers, from the track, and capsizing them. The passenger engine and tender and two baggage cars smashed through the rear of the freight train, lifting it from the track and precipitating it on the flagman's shanty, crushing him underneath. The scene at the wreck was indescribable. H. F. Wood, of Lima, New York, was almost instantly killed. J. Doty Collins lost a leg, which was taken off, and he was injured internally; he cannot live. Catherine Wilson, of Fon Du Lac, was very dangerously injured. Many others were more or less cut and bruised, but none seriously.

BOSTON, 1.—Mr. Wilson has left a will, which is in his own handwriting, and dated April 21st, 1874. By it he bequeathed his entire estate, real and personal, to his nephew, Dr. Wm. D. Coolidge, in trust for the support of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Mary Howe, now in her ninetieth year, for the education and support of his adopted daughter, Eva Little, a girl of some ten summers, and for other minor and designated purposes, trusting it all, as he expresses it, to the friendship, discretion and sense of right of Mr. Coolidge. He also constituted Mr. Coolidge his executor, directing that no bonds be required of him, either as executor or trustee. In regard to the completion and carrying through the press of the third and last volume of his "History of the Rise and Fall of the Slave Power in America," left nearly completed, it is expected that it will be attended to by the Rev. Samuel Hunt, a life-long friend and associate, and his former pastor for seven years, his private secretary, and who more than all others assisted him in the preparation of the work.

PHILADELPHIA, 1.—The iron-clads at League Island are ready for sea and will leave to-morrow morning in tow of vessels which are to accompany them to the Norfolk fleet, which will consist of nine or ten vessels, among them the *Powhatan*, *Tallapoosa*, *Alliance*, *Alert*, *Huron*, *Dispatch*, *Pas-saic*, *Nantucket* and *Wyandotte*.

RICHMOND, Va., 1.—The legislature met to-day. The Governor's message shows the receipts for the year ending Sept. 30th, to be \$2,648,000, disbursements \$2,812,000, balance on hand \$29,000, interest paid on State debt \$1,417,000, annual aggregate interest on State debt and other accounts \$2,035,000, showing a deficit of over \$600,000 to be provided for. The Governor declares that Virginia cannot possibly ever pay that portion of the public debt assigned to west Virginia. He recommends recapitalization of the State debt by substituting for the bonds now out others bearing four per cent. gold interest, with provisions for its certain and prompt payment. A constitutional amendment for a return to a *viva voce* sys-

tem of voting is advised. The government concludes with the hope that Virginia will take an active part in the Philadelphia Centennial.

CHICAGO, 1.—This afternoon an unknown expressman delivered at the U. S. Express Office in this city, a barrel, addressed to Thomas Greene & Co., Iowa City, Iowa. Some suspicion having arisen, the barrel was opened and found to contain the bodies of a very handsome, young woman, apparently about 22 years old, and a still born child. The circumstances go to show that the woman was refined and evidently from the upper walks in life. The expressman declares that the barrel was taken from a barn on Wabash Avenue, in one of the most fashionable neighborhoods in the city. He further states that he can identify one of the two men who employed him.

OSWEGO, N. Y., 2.—The schooner *J. G. Jenkins*, founded in a gale, on Tuesday, above Oswego, and all on board lost, as follows—Captain John Brown, of Oswego; first mate John Smith; second mate, Sam McDonald; seamen, Hugh Doran, John Stewart, James Williams, Michael Brapty, Wm. Bruner, all of Oswego, and a woman cook from Buffalo. The vessel was insured for \$3,000 and the cargo for \$26,000.

WHITEHALL, N. Y., Jas. McDonald's residence, with the outbuildings, at Willsboro, were burned last night. Loss \$50,000. Insurance \$10,000.

ALBANY, N. Y., 2.—Jno. Harris, formerly U. S. senator, died at 11 a.m. to-day.

NEW YORK, 2.—Patrick Toney last night saturated the clothes of his wife with kerosene and set them on fire. The screams of the woman brought the inmates to her rescue and the flames were extinguished. She was terribly burned, however, and is not expected to live.

A private letter from Ragusa, Dalmatia, Austria, from a lady who is an eye-witness of the sufferings of the Herzegovinian refugees, contains the following—

Very many of the children had only one garment, tied together and principally composed of patches, still one mass of rags, which seemed to make their nakedness more pitiful, and yet of all the refugees those at Ragusa are the most fortunate, the best fed and clothed. There are now present in the district of Ragusa alone, about twelve thousand refugees, nearly all women, children and old men. In Montenegro there are 50,000, in Croatia and Servia thousands, the whole number of fugitives amounting to nearly 150,000. With the means received up to the present time 16,000 or 18,000 people might be protected to the extent of a blanket apiece from the winter's cold, but the remaining one hundred thousand or more and their food and the roof to cover them, to say nothing of the wounded men brought in from the battle, sick and dying, the child-bearing women, the pest-stricken people. The lady makes an earnest appeal for help to keep from death by cold and starvation a whole population, whose sin is that they are Christians, Christian dogs, rajahs, and adds—"My husband was on the frontiers of Bosnia, where the river Save divides Turkey from Austria. He was entreated by the people of the Austrian villages not to cross the river and enter a Turkish town, as he would certainly lose his life, but by allowing himself to be introduced as a merchant from Trieste he was unmolested and walked through the streets constantly. The headless bodies of Christians lay all about the streets. On the river he had seen boats full of the refugees, striving for dear life to reach the Austrian shore. The Turks fired into them and one of the boats was sunk. Others reached the shore, covered with blood from the wounds of fugitives. Headless bodies of women were floating on the water. In the streets of the town the swine were feeding on the corpses of Christian women.

CHICAGO, 2.—The President's message this year will be much longer than usual. It will contain upwards of 18,000 words, and on account of its great length will not be ready to send into Congress until Tuesday, even if the House should elect a speaker on Monday.

A Washington special says there seems to be an apprehension that the country is to be plunged into war with Spain by an unsatisfactory termination of the negotiations which Secretary Fish and Cushing

have been conducting with the Spanish government during the past two months. All the information that can be obtained leads to the belief that these negotiations are proceeding favorably, and the result is more likely than not to be gratifying to our government. At the same time our relations with every other foreign power are of the most friendly character, our only serious troubles being upon the Rio Grande at a point inaccessible to the navy. Naval officers are therefore convinced that Robeson's extensive preparations must be in view of something likely to happen in regard to our attitude towards Spain, and they may naturally look towards Cuba for an explanation, but there has been no recent occurrence in Cuba to call for a naval demonstration on the island. Americans may have been ill treated there, but no very aggravated case of this kind has recently occurred, so that in the present state of affairs in that island, considered in connection with the favorable progress of our negotiations at Madrid seem to be making, cause the theory of a war with Spain to arise out of the existing state of affairs to be promptly dismissed. One theory alone remains, and that is, that the President intends either to recognize the belligerency of the Cuban insurgents, or recommend Congress to take some special action in the matter, and this is the theory held by many naval officers. If this were the purpose of the President they say the present extraordinary naval preparations might be easily explained. Supposing the treaty with Spain to remain, unmodified, such a recognition would give a chance for our cruisers' rights under the twelfth article of the treaty, to visit and examine all vessels bearing the American flag. It is not believed in naval circles that Spain would consider the recognition of Cuba by the United States *casus belli*, but it is believed that the officers of her naval vessels would seek to exercise the right above noticed and that they might be tempted to do so in an offensive manner, or in cases not contemplated by the terms of the treaty. In order to prevent this and assure himself that American commerce shall not suffer from the action of the government our naval officers think the present preparations are making. This may or may not be well founded, but it is a fact that others besides them are beginning to suspect something of this kind is in his mind.

The body of the woman packed and sent in a barrel, together with that of a newly born child, to the U. S. express office here yesterday, has not yet been identified, and it is by no means certain that the woman was highly respectable. The expressman who took the package to the office was arrested this morning, and he pointed out the two men Jackson and Darrow, who got him to do the job. They are carpenters and it is said have done a body snatching business before and said to a *Post and Mail* reporter that Dr. E. P. Wilder furnished the bodies, for which they furnished the barrel. Jackson and Darrow have been arrested and a warrant is out for the arrest of Wilder. A coroner's inquest will be held to-morrow.

CINCINNATI, O., 2.—A large barn, filled with grain, owned by Oliver Malford, of Hillsboro, Ind., was destroyed by fire last night. Loss \$15,000.

On Tuesday evening the boiler of a portable engine belonging to Wm. Nelson, of New Harmony, Ind., exploded instantly, killing Thos. Nelson, engineer, S. Enlow, sawyer, and badly scalding several others.

NEW YORK, 2.—Berlin telegrams says an interview has taken place between Gortschakoff and Bismarck, which it is believed has resulted in a declaration of Bismarck's approbation of the purchase of the Suez canal by Great Britain.

A Springfield, Mass., dispatch states that the rowing association of American colleges have voted to challenge Oxford and Cambridge of England and Trinity of Dublin to row a six-oared race without coxwains at the American college regatta in 1878. Time, third Wednesday, place, Saratoga, New London, or Springfield, whose bids will be acted upon at and adjourned meeting in New York, Jan. 4th. Philadelphia, which had been proposed, is out of the question. The New England colleges are anti-Saratoga, and divided between Springfield and New London. All

the rest are for Saratoga. Thomas Hughes, of England, was elected referee, with Mr. Chitty, of the London Rowing Club, as alternate.

At a meeting of directors of the Michigan Central Railway Co., in this city yesterday, Samuel Sloan, president of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railway, was unanimously elected vice president. The office of the Michigan Central Railroad has been removed to this city from Boston, where it has been located for twenty years.

Private dispatches to bankers here state the amount withdrawn from the Bank of England to-day will reach £700,000 sterling.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Southern Atlantic Telegraph Company took place to-day. The affairs of the company were regarded favorably.

WASHINGTON, 2.—The Centennial Committee on the opening ceremonies selected William M. Evarts for orator, W. H. Longfellow poet, and a grandson of Richard H. Lee, of Virginia, reader of Declaration of Independence.

PHILADELPHIA, 2.—The navy yard to-day was sold for one million dollars. The purchaser was J. Lowber Welch, who bought it for John C. Bulliet, attorney for parties whose names he refused to give.

This afternoon John P. Green, one of Prest. Scott's assistants, stated positively that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company was the real purchaser of the navy yard, but declared they had not matured their plan for the future in relation to the property.

The *Evening Telegraph* says the navy yard was bought for Drexel & Co., bankers, and H. W. Welsh, a large shipping firm of this city.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., 2.—A fire in Broadway Baptist Church, early this morning almost ruined the edifice, valued at \$70,000. Loss two-thirds. The library of the pastor, Rev. J. L. Burrows, including valuable collections for years, is destroyed. Loss \$60,000. Insurance on the building \$44,000, on library \$2,400.

OWEN SOUND, Ont., 2.—One thousand barrels of white fish and salmon trout have been seized by the government for having been caught during the closed time of the season.

LARAMIE, Wyo., 2.—All is quiet at the Rock Springs and Carbon coal mines. The new hands are working peaceably at Rock Springs and will be also at Carbon in a few days. The military are still at the mines.

BOSTON, 2.—Robt. W. Dessen, a well known merchant of Franklin St., shot himself yesterday, at his country residence at Newton, Upper Falls, dying instantly.

NEW YORK, 2.—At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce to-day a committee of five was appointed to consider what effect a longer continuance of the struggle in Cuba could have on the commerce of this country, and whether the chamber should memorialize Congress in relation to the matter.

At a late hour Charles O'Connor was still alive, but his condition is stated to be very low.

NEW ORLEANS, 2.—The official statement of the Bank of America, which suspended yesterday, shows assets \$619,510.50, liabilities \$338,756.32. The liabilities include \$158,235.20 due depositors, and \$30,980.20 due the Importers and Traders' National Bank of New York. The assets are decidedly weak. It is estimated that they will yield from ten to twenty-five cents on the dollars.

Gov. Kellogg has respite Bill Williams and Hinderson, sentenced to be hanged from the 3d to the 31st, when they will be executed, unless the Supreme Court grants a new trial, for which they have made application on the ground that the jury indicting them was not legal, it having been drawn by Judge Braughm while he was acting by appointment of Judge Atocha and before Braughm had been commissioned by the Governor.

CLEVELAND, O., 2.—The boiler in the Wood Block Sawing Works of McMahon & Stale, pavement contractors, exploded this p. m., with terrible force. Fifteen or twenty men were at work about the building. Two—Henry Hogerter and Terrance Doyle, were severely injured. Eight others were more or less injured, none severely. The building was torn to pieces, and fragments of the boiler were thrown a great distance. The cause of the explosion was unknown.

E. C. Voltze, stage manager of Euclid Avenue Opera House, died here this morning.