

BY TELEGRAPH.

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

AMERICAN.

CHICAGO, 8.—The Times will devote another large editorial to the Mormon question, which will say: There has appeared in some newspapers a statement that Congressman Springer will favor the proposition of the Utah Commissioners to repeal the present charter of the Mormon province and put in its place an administrative establishment like that of the Capital district. The municipal government of that District is nothing more than a board of three Commissioners who are appointed by the President with the approbation of the Senate. All subordinate functionaries are appointed by, and directly accountable to the Board. There is no municipal legislature of any description, all legislative power over the District being held and exercised by Congress. This arrangement has approved itself by its efficient, economic and satisfactory working. From being the worst, most corruptly and recklessly administered city in America, "possibly excepting New York," as it was under a Territorial charter similar to that of Utah, Washington has become noted as the best regulated, best policed and in every way the best administered American city. There is reason to believe that the administrative plan of the Capital District could be advantageously extended not merely to Utah, but to Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Idaho, Montana and other districts having small populations. The advantages would appear in a more simple, effective and economic appliance of officialism; but it is not on account of such recommendations of it that either the Utah Commissioners or Mr. Springer favor it. They advocate the application of it in Utah because they say it would "solve the Mormon problem," and would deprive the Mormon Church of its power, meaning probably its political, for it clearly would not deprive that church of its ecclesiastical and spiritual power. Can any change of form of civil government alter the case? Perhaps if Congress would enact that the Mormons shall be found guilty of "celestial marriage," without trial by jury, and also without evidence, it might; but it happens that Congress has not authority to do either. As a solution of the Mormon problem, if that problem is polygamy, the business project favored by Springer is as worthless as the rest of the legislative panaceas. The only way to cure the celestial marriage distemper in Utah is to attack, not the Mormon Church, but the religious belief of the Mormons. There can be no more effective way of attacking that, than one which the Times has suggested, viz: to send Mr. R. G. Ingersoll to Utah to preach religious unbelief.

WASHINGTON, 8.—The Chief Signal Officer's annual report says the service has been seriously crippled by the diminished appropriation, and urges that Congress be more liberal in future. He recommends a separate office on the Pacific coast and a decided extension of the service in that important region.

The following letter from the Attorney General explains itself. Under previous instructions from him, Col. Corkhill, U.S. district attorney, has nearly completed a number of cases of frauds upon pension claimants for the action of the grand jury. He has received a number of fraudulent circulars and letters explaining the use made of them. He is desirous that soldiers or their friends having copies of such circulars, or knowledge of such attempted frauds, will at once send him full information and be particular to send the number by which the claim in each case is known at the pension office.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
Washington, Nov. 7, 1883.

To the Secretary of the Interior:

Referring to your letter of the 2d, respecting the appointment by the Commissioner of Pensions of persons to aid the U. S. District Attorney of this District in the investigation of all claims for pensions and bounties connected with which charges are made against attorneys to examine such cases as the District Attorney shall desire to present to the grand jury, I agree with you that such appointment cannot be made as to examinations where the offenses charged are not offenses against the United States; but the District Attorney in his letter to you includes cases where these pension agents

make formal applications to the Pension Office, well knowing the claims they present are fraudulent. This is an offence against the United States. So far as the District Attorney makes charges of crimes against the United States he should be aided in the examination of such cases by an officer of the Pension Bureau specially detailed for that purpose. The evil set forth by the District Attorney is a growing one, and all means that can legally be employed to suppress it ought to be put in motion to that end. Permit me to send you advance proof sheets of the Second Auditor's report, which discloses a frightful condition of organized fraud against the poor and helpless, who have either served their country themselves and live maimed and broken down in health, or have left destitute widows and children, all of whom are now victims of these designing, bad men who rob them of their little savings and earnings under color of gains they are never to have, and overload the public departments with work that hinders the necessary progress of their proper business. If this can be put an end to by the intervention of officers of the United States; if this can be punished, it ought to be.

(Signed) BREWSTER.

The President has so amended Civil Service Rule No. 8, that it distinctly prohibits the appointing power, alike in every department and in every postoffice and customs office, from making any discrimination in the selections for appointments by reason of any political or religious opinion or affiliation.

ATLANTA, Ga., 8.—S. M. Suggs, member of a traveling troupe, killed L. J. Plattor, manager, in Adairsville, last night, in a quarrel over the possession of bills.

Pittsburg, 8.—Lancaster County, Penna., has for six weeks been suffering from the depredations of a band of outlaws who escaped from jail six weeks ago, and have since been hiding in the mountains. Villagers and farmers armed and pursued the convicts, and a running fight of several miles resulted in the capture of one and the serious wounding of three of the gang. The infuriated farmers are still keeping up the pursuit.

Kansas, City, 8.—A fearful tragedy was enacted to-day at the farmhouse of H. Clay McGee, ten miles south of the city. His children returning home from school this afternoon found the lifeless body of their father, mother and elder sister lying upon the floor. McGee evidently had killed his wife, shooting her in the breast with a shot gun, shot his daughter in the back, and then completed the horror by going to an upper room and swallowing a dose of morphine. The house being isolated the neighbors were not aroused and the bodies consequently lay until discovered by the children late in the day. The immediate cause for the deed is not known. McGee is described as a man of violent temper, amounting almost to frenzy at times. He was a prosperous farmer, having come into the vicinity several years ago from Kentucky, where it is said he once killed a man. There were six children, some of them married. Mary, the murdered daughter was 20 years of age. Another daughter, wife of Mr. Sands Hopkins, member of an old family here, was accidentally shot and killed by her husband some months ago. McGee is 45 or 50 years of age.

McGee has for some time borne an unsavory reputation among his neighbors, on account of harsh treatment of his family; and the tragedy is supposed to be the result of domestic discord of long standing.

Cincinnati, 8.—Commercial Gazette Anderson, Ind.: Mrs. Susanah Nelson started to Nebraska September 6th, and has not since been heard from by her friends. She has a large sum of money with her. Marshal Coburn to-day made known to her brothers that he had found a fire insurance policy issued to Mrs. Nelson, in the woods near Terre Haute, where some time ago the badly mutilated body of a woman was found by a hunter. He claims to have proof that Mrs. Nelson was murdered.

Pittsburg, 8.—It is evident that a gang of expert thieves are working in this locality. This week three extensive robberies have been committed. The boldest was breaking the safe of Samuel Schultz, storekeeper, a few miles from this city early this morning. The robbers hauled the safe out of the building on a plank, blew it open with powder, and got \$2,200 in cash and jewelry. The \$3,000 worth of cloth

stolen Tuesday has been recovered, and three men and a woman arrested, but it is thought there are a dozen others in the gang.

Galveston, 8.—News' Hearn special: There has been bad feeling for some time between City Marshal Cannon and Albert Bishop, a promising young lawyer. This morning, Cannon, pistol in hand, followed Bishop into a yard, where the lawyer unexpectedly produced a double-barrelled shot-gun and perforated Cannon with 29 buckshot, killing him instantly. Cannon had been marshal four years, during which time he had killed two men. He had a State reputation.

Chicago, 8.—The police this afternoon and to-night arrested 12 members of a thoroughly organized gang of shoplifters. They include the leader, a woman known to the police as "Mother Wier" two sons and two daughters. Over \$2,000 worth of stolen goods were recovered. It is estimated the peculations of the band, nearly all of whom are women, amounted from \$10,000 to \$15,000 within the past few months. All are fine looking women, elegantly dressed. Their mode of operation was for a couple of the women to enter a carriage with one of "Mother Wier's" sons as coachman, and go shopping among the larger stores till the carriage was filled with plunder, when it would be taken to a place of deposit. One of "Mother Wier's" daughters lately returned from New York, having served a term on Blackwell's Island.

Madison, Wis., 8.—The entire roof, inside walls, and iron and stone columns of the new south wing of the Capitol fell at 1.40 p.m. The cause of the accident is somewhat uncertain, but the most plausible theory is that the pillars supporting the roof of the second balcony sank into the plank on which they rested, thus pulling the sound wall outward, which in turn caused the roof of the entire wing to cave in. These columns were made of large pieces of boiler iron rolled into circular form, stovepipe fashion, the jointure not being bolted together.

Five men had left the basement and were about returning when the crash came. Hundreds of people were at once on the scene, and with the aid of the hook and ladder company extricated every sufferer. Medical attendance was summoned and the wounded removed to places of safety. Some ascribe the accident to a defective iron pillar, others to poor masonry. It is the opinion of Contractor Bentley that the loss will fall on the Commonwealth, as the plans were approved by the State Architect, and the blame can be ascribed to no one. It is thought there must have been a defect in some casting. The loss cannot be estimated at present. The additions were to be completed March 1st, 1884. Two hundred thousand dollars was appropriated by the Legislature to meet the necessary expense. The wing was designed for Historical Society uses.

San Francisco, 8.—Aggie Hill, suing Senator Sharon for divorce and division of property, refused in court this morning to produce the alleged marriage contract until informed by the judge that if she didn't it would be ruled out from the evidence as only so much waste paper. Sharon after seeing it denounced it as a forgery in such indignant terms that the judge ordered him removed from court. The document remains in the possession of the court until large photographs can be taken.

Albany, 8.—Chas. L. Leland, formerly proprietor of the Delmar House, and latterly of Brighton Beach Hotel, Coney Island, made a general assignment to Chas. J. Buchanan; liabilities and assets unknown.

Baltimore, 8.—Moses, husband of the fat woman, who died recently, it appears called several times on the day of her death on Dr. Hill, offering his wife's body for sale, which was finally bought on the importunity of Moses, who gave as a reason for the singular transaction that he was in great poverty and needed money. The remains will not be taken up till December.

Mexico, via Galveston, 8.—A duel was fought in Chapultepec outside the city this morning, between De Gheest of the Mexican National Bank and Olivier, a French merchant. The latter was killed, and De Gheest badly wounded. Swords were used. All the parties are well known. The trouble was caused by a dispute over seats at the races on Sunday. The British Minister, two American ladies, and De Gheest left their seats to promenade. Olivier and

two ladies occupied them. A quarrel ensued between De Gheest and Olivier. The former called the police, and the latter was ejected. The incident caused several challenges to De Gheest. He had another arranged for to-morrow. Intense excitement prevails among foreigners.

JACKSON, Miss., 8.—Election returns are nearly all in. On joint ballot the Legislature stands, 130 democrats and 25 republicans and independents. The democrats elected 11 out of 22 district attorneys. The disturbances in Copiah County were the only ones reported in the State on election day.

Richmond, Va., 8.—Latest reports increase the democratic gains. Reports from all but two districts give the democrats 23 senators, coalition 15. Returns from both the districts not fully reported, show very heavy democratic gains, which if continued at points not heard from will give one or both to the democrats. In the house of delegates the democrats so far have secured 63 members, the coalitionists 33. Of the four remaining delegates, the democrats have one certain, which makes their majority in the house 27, and on joint ballot not less than 35. The democratic majority in the State is likely to reach 30,000.

Philadelphia, 8.—Official returns from 57 of 67 counties in the State and estimates of the others give Niles 16,261, Linsey 17,501 majority.

Poughkeepsie, 8.—Proceedings are begun against City Assessor Charles Calwell, A. A. Boush, warden of Sing Sing prison, Robert Morey, a New York Custom House officer, and several other prominent politicians, charging them with buying votes on Tuesday.

New York, 8.—The Sun will say: Corrected returns make no material change in the majorities on the State ticket. The plurality of Carr, republican, for State Secretary, is 18,000; Chapin, democrat, for Comptroller, 15,000 plurality; Maxwell, for Treasurer, runs 5,000 behind Chapin. The pluralities for the other candidates will range from 12,000 to 14,000.

NEW ORLEANS, 9.—A six year old Italian girl died of yellow fever on Wednesday, in the charity hospital, three hours after admittance. The child was one of a family of immigrants who with others came here after landing at Vera Cruz, where they did not obtain employment.

NEW YORK, 9.—The attorney for J. J. Bradley, in the suit against the Northern Pacific Railway, have withdrawn their application for an injunction to prevent the issuing of the new second mortgage loan.

CHICAGO, 9.—It seems to be definitely settled that the arrangements previously made by which the business to the Pacific Coast is to be taken at the same rates via all routes, is to be modified. The understanding is now that the Central Pacific and Northern Pacific are to divide this Territory the former to control the business to San Francisco and California points, and the latter the business to Portland, Oregon, and Washington Territory points. Thus the Northern Pacific will have to charge higher rates to San Francisco than the direct lines, and San Francisco lines will charge a higher rate to Portland, Oregon, and Washington Territory points, this will enable the Central Pacific to continue its present contract system in California freight, and will allow the Northern Pacific to make such contracts as it chooses with shippers at points within its own territory.

LIMA, 9.—After the revolt of Montero's troops at Arequipa, Colonel Raygado attacked the mutineers and populace, killing 70, including the Mayor of the city. General Carelazo was killed by his own troops, while the Chilean expeditionary force was in Arequipa. The Bolivian army is concentrating near Montero's in Bolivia. Bolivia is treating for peace with Chili.

WASHINGTON, 9.—Gen. Wright, Chief of Engineers, in his annual report urgently recommends Congress to make ample appropriations for putting the sea and lake fronts in a condition for defence in case of war. He advises that at least \$500,000 be expended at San Francisco. Among other appropriations he recommended the following: Divers harbors on the Pacific Coast, \$1,978,000; Gulf coast, \$3,854,600.

Argument is commenced in the Supreme Court on the suit brought by the heirs of the late Sarah Ann Dorsey, of Louisiana, for the purpose of setting aside the will by which Mrs. Dorsey left her property to Jefferson Davis.

Gen. Longstreet, fearing a rescue

of the Ku Klux prisoners, requests authority to appoint additional guards to accompany them from Atlanta to Albany (New York) penitentiary.

CHICAGO, 9.—A private dispatch was received here to-day from St. Paul, from John Muir, general traffic manager of the Northern Pacific, in which he says: "Taking effect yesterday, we withdraw from the California business, and the southern lines withdraw from all business north of San Francisco." No explanation of the reasons for this action is given, but it is supposed to be the result of a secret conference among the passenger representatives of roads in the Transcontinental Association at Topeka during the past three days, they having failed to reach an agreement as to the division of the competitive territory at the late Chicago meeting. Heretofore the Northern Pacific has claimed the right to land passengers from the east at San Francisco via Portland at the same rate the other Pacific roads charged by the direct route; and the other Pacific roads in turn claimed the right to land eastern passengers at Portland, via San Francisco at the same rate as charged by the Northern Pacific. The new arrangement takes both Portland and San Francisco out of the competition, and leaves the trip between the two points by the Oregon Steamship & Navigation Line to be paid for at the local rate. The same arrangement applies to freight traffic also. The Northern Pacific, under the new arrangement, will carry all the freight for Portland and all points in the Northwest, and other Pacific Coast lines will carry to San Francisco and adjacent territory. Whenever a shipper chooses to send freight to San Francisco via Portland, or to Portland via San Francisco, local rates between these points must be prepaid. Freight now in transit is excepted from the agreement.

St. Louis, 9.—The Missouri Pacific Railroad announces that central or 90th meridian time will be adopted on all lines of that company beginning on the 18th inst.

Galveston, 9.—Within the past few days the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railroad has discharged 300 to 400 men along its line, because of the stoppage of construction and general dullness of railroad business. The Galveston & Houston, Henderson & Galveston and Harrisburg & San Antonio roads are also curtailing their force.

NEW YORK, 9.—About a thousand members of the Grand Army of the Republic tendered General Sherman a reception this evening. Gen. Henry A. Barnum presided. Gen. Sherman made a long address. After thanking his old comrades for their hearty welcome, said he had responded to their call, although it was not customary to celebrate one's own funeral. He would rather meet the old soldiers face to face than any of your Vanderbilts or other nabobs. Gen. Sherman spoke of the war and its results, and added, "since the close of the war, a new generation has sprung up. Boys not then born are now voters. The destiny of the Nation has been taken out of our hands. We are now comparatively a small minority. It is well, however, that we should assemble together and keep alive the patriotism of those days, the memory of the hardships endured, the memory of dear companions whose bodies lie beneath Southern battlefields; well to tell the story of those days over again to each other, and tell it to your children and children's children at the fireside, that they may know how this country was saved, and who saved it. At one time I doubted the advisability of forming or keeping up such an organization as the Grand Army of the Republic; but I am convinced you did well in organizing such an association."

CINCINNATI, 9.—Commercial Gazette's Terre Haute: Mrs. Nelson of Anderson, whose decomposed body was found here some weeks ago, was last seen in company with Jasper Nelson, her son, at Brazil, coming in this direction. The son has not since been heard from.

Boston, 9.—This morning officer Kimball, hearing a woman's cries from Bartlett Place, entered No. 1, and in the corner of the room was the occupant of the tenement, named McIntosh, suffering from severe bruises. His wife was in the centre of the room with her forehead broken in two places, and otherwise injured. Near her lay Mrs. Frank Barlay, severely cut about the face. Mrs. McIntosh may die. She is enfeebled. Frank Barlay, husband of the woman injured, but who