

New Zealand.—By letter from New Zealand, to Elder W. Geddes, we learn that all the missionaries in that country are well, and after many difficulties have succeeded in baptizing fifteen persons.—*Ogden Junction, Jan. 20.*

K. P. R. R.—The Kansas Pacific Railroad will be pushed from Denver to Salt Lake as soon as the snow is out of the ground, the bondholders hoping to realize their investments by securing a portion of the through carrying trade of the Pacific coast.—*New York Sun.*

False Alarm.—There was an alarm of fire, said to be at the railroad depot, at ten o'clock to-day, and the firemen, with apparatus, turned out and rushed for that locality, but learning, on the way, it was all a mistake, they returned.

Mound Valley.—The following comes from R. H. Williams, Mound Valley, Oneida Co., Idaho, Jan. 16th—

"We have had a fine fall and winter up to the present. It commenced snowing this morning early, and is still keeping it up. The health of the people is good. We have erected a school-house 18 x 24 feet, which we use for meeting, and hope to have a school started soon."

A Local Production.—We have received the copy of a song published by Sherman & Hyde, San Francisco, which is a local production, the words by C. W. Stayner and the music by Joseph J. Daynes of this city. Its title is, "Yes, My Darling, Ever Kind," being an answer to, "Have I Not Been Kind to Thee?" It is a very pleasant little song, the words reflecting credit upon their author and the music upon the composer. It is for sale by Daynes & Son.

Thieves Abroad.—Between Thursday night and Friday morning thieves entered the stable of Joseph U. Eldredge, 16th Ward, and stole a single set of buggy harness, belonging to Eldredge, Pratt & Co., and then proceeded to the premises of Solomon Brothers, 19th Ward, same street, and stole a light spring wagon. If anybody should see the vehicle they might know it by the description, and report. It has a couple of odd springs, the hind one bound with tar rope, yellow running gears and dark brown body. It also has an iron plate on the joint of the right shaft, and, when stolen, had one seat in it.

As it has likely gone on a tour to the southern mines, people in the settlements might see it.

A Golden Opportunity.—The present phase in the political history of the American Republic presents a golden opportunity for some intellectual giant, endowed with extraordinary powers of self-denial and true statesmanship, whose abilities have as yet slumbered in obscurity, to step forward and be a second "father of his country." The circumstances for such a genius to distinguish himself are ready made to his hand, but, as yet, it does not appear that the needed individual is ready made for the circumstances. The record of such a one, if successful, would be surely no less than the honored Washington, for the work he would have to accomplish would be scarcely, if any, less herculean than that performed by that celebrated warrior and statesman. There is an evident hastening of the republic toward the process of political and social disintegration, and the means of arresting its progress is the question of the hour.

Existing circumstances are causing many of the leading reflecting minds of the nation to incline to the opinion that the grandest system of human government ever devised and conducted on the globe reached its zenith when scarce one hundred years old, and then commenced to travel, from the culminating point, down the other side of the hill of perfection. If this opinion be correct, and there is every appearance of it, it is but reasonable to suppose that the process of descent will be much more rapid than that of ascending has been, the operation, speaking by comparative analogy, of climbing being greatly slower than that of gliding down a precipitous declivity. Should this governmental fabric become disintegrated by internal feuds, dissensions, bloodshed and destruction, the superstructure resolving itself into uncongenial fragments, the work of reconstruction and re-organization would necessa-

rily be exceedingly difficult, requiring the exercise of wisdom and ability scarcely if ever heretofore displayed by humanity, in order that the necessary preventive barriers might be erected against the causes that led to the disruption of the Republic, avoiding the rocks upon which it was split, divided and destroyed.

In fact, should it turn out, as many intelligent men believe, that the Republic is afflicted with rapid consumption, it will go far toward convincing the honest and thoughtful of the futility of governments exclusively conducted by human ingenuity and wisdom, and of the necessity of direct divine interposition and supervision before a reign of peace, goodwill, prosperity and happiness can be introduced and carried on.

What is called "Mormonism," which is in reality the gospel of Christ, points to a time in the affairs of men when that divine interposition will be given and accepted, and will extend to every nation on the face of the globe, and that as the governments of human origin and management crumble and fall, a system of higher order will be established and will prevail, until the design of the great Creator in relation to this fractional part of his handiwork is accomplished, and all things are, as they were in the beginning, only in a more advanced stage of progress, "very good."

By Telegraph.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 19.—Hunt, from the judiciary committee, reported a resolution discharging Orton from custody; adopted without division.

Ex-Governor Wells and General Anderson were brought before the House for contempt. They asked to be allowed to postpone their answer until the remaining members of the Louisiana board arrived. The matter was referred to the judiciary committee.

Ellis offered a resolution calling on the president for information regarding the rival Louisiana governments; referred.

WASHINGTON, 19.—During the debate on the Louisiana affairs, Boggs said the character of Packard in New Orleans was that of an infamous robber. (Great applause, followed in the gallery on the right of the Chair, and on motion of Edmunds, the sergeant-at-arms was directed to clear the galleries on the right of the Chamber.) The order was executed immediately, and the galleries designated were closed without trouble.

Paddock introduced a bill for the relief of settlers on the public lands under the pre-emption laws; referred.

WASHINGTON, 20.—Sargent presented a petition of male and female residents of California, asking the adoption of a sixteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States from disfranchising persons on account of sex; referred.

The committee on privileges and elections, in presenting the petition of Sargent said the influence of women at the polls would purify elections and give us a better class of public officials, and the State would be benefited by conferring the right of suffrage upon women. This movement was growing year by year, and had already passed the period of ridicule both in this country and England. Sargent also presented a petition of various powder manufacturing companies in favor of the passage of the bill recently introduced by him to allow them to purchase certain land within the limits of Salt Lake; referred to the committee on public lands.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 19.—The House consular appropriation bill for the fiscal year ending Jan., 1878, was considered. The committee's amendments to the bill passed without division.

WASHINGTON, 19.—The House went into committee of the whole on the private calendar. When the committee rose Foster submitted the report of the conference committee on the bill to supply the deficiency in the contingent fund of the House; agreed to.

Holman, from the appropriation committee, reported the legislative appropriation bill, which was made

the special order for Tuesday next.

WASHINGTON, 22.—Throckmorton's resolution directing the military committee to enquire into the removal of troops from the frontier, and whether a sufficient number for guaranteeing safety remains, and how many troops are at Washington. Defeated—yeas 142 nays 87. Not two-thirds affirmative.

AMERICAN.

CHICAGO, 18.—The following is an extract of Col. Miles' official report of the recent battle with Sitting Bull's band: Sitting Bull's band was again defeated near the head of Redwater on December 18, by three companies of the Fifth Infantry, under command of Lieut. Baldwin. The Indian trail was obscured by a severe snowstorm when north of the Missouri, and, as the reports were conflicting, I divided my forces, taking three companies through the Musselshell and Dry Fork country, and sending three down the north side of the Missouri, four companies under Captain Snyder being then on Dry Fork. Sitting Bull had crossed near Wolf Point, but on the approach of Baldwin's force retreated back again at the head of his camp of 122 lodges. He was driven south of the Yellowstone and his camp captured, with many lodges standing together, with sixty horses, mules and ponies, and everything pertaining to an Indian village was burned up. The Indians escaped with very little besides what they had on their backs. Lieut. Baldwin, and the officers and troops with him, are entitled to great credit. The command has marched over five hundred miles, making seventy-three in forty-eight hours, and endured the severity of a mountain winter with great fortitude. Five prominent chiefs of the Sioux nation were killed by their old enemies, the Crow Scouts, at this point on the 17th instant, while coming in bearing a white flag, followed by some twenty or thirty others. The guilty Crows escaped by flight. This affair was unfortunate, as their coming in would have secured the surrender of at least 1,000 fighting men. The thermometer is 40 degrees below zero.

CHEYENNE, 18.—Intelligence was received here, to-day, from Chug Water, fifty miles north of this city, that the Indians made a raid on the ranches near Chug Water Station, last night, driving off about fifty horses. The Indians were followed by the ranchmen for several miles, but they succeeded in getting away with the stock.

POUGHKEEPSIE, 18.—The first freight over the line of the New York Central Railroad, for one week, passed south to-night, and other trains are following rapidly, the snow blockade being raised.

GLOUCESTER, Mass., 18.—The past year 212 lives and 27 vessels valued at \$15,000 have been lost from the fishing fleet.

WASHINGTON, 18.—Chas. Fisher, recently convicted of purloining papers from the office of the district attorney, and subsequently pardoned and conveyed by his friends to a lunatic asylum in this district, made his escape to-night.

Mr. Fred. May is in this city. He arrived on Tuesday last, and is unhurt.

CINCINNATI, 18.—The tunnel on the Marietta and Cleveland railroad, to-night, gave way, and shut in five laborers who, it is feared, have been suffocated by foul air.

NEW YORK, 19.—General Dix writes a long letter to the *Times* giving a history of the method of counting the electoral votes, and declaring that any other way than by allowing the president *pro tem.* of the Senate to count would be revolutionary.

Terry says it will relieve him of a grave responsibility, if it becomes a law, though he will not shrink from his duty.

Garfield said the proposition seems to him like mortgaging the future to get over the present hitch. He does not know how the bill may be interpreted, but if it proposes to give the commission power to go behind the returns from the State and investigate the manner in which the elections are conducted, thus denying to the State the constitutional right to appoint its own electors in its own way, he should feel bound to oppose it.

Kelly said his personal conviction is that the President of the Senate possesses the full constitutional right to count the electoral vote, but there is such a demand from the people for an immediate settlement of the pending question that

he is disposed to lay aside his individual preference to assent to the passage of the bill. He characterized the report as able, plausible and fair, and believed the republicans cannot wisely reject it.

Christiancy thought the committee had proceeded in a spirit of perfect fairness toward both parties. He thought he would support it.

President Grant said, in conversation, that he had not had time to examine the bill carefully and critically, but, on general principles, he approved of a measure of the character alluded to, and if not objectionable in detail, or if it did not contain provisions at variance with the spirit and letter of the Constitution, he would accord to it his prompt approval. He said from the beginning he had felt no apprehension as to the final result, as he has always had great faith in the intelligence and patriotism of the American people. There have been threatenings and incipient evidences of revolutionary purposes in some quarters, to meet which he had taken proper means of precaution, and for which he will keep prepared until his responsibility is over. He said the country was now in a condition to begin a period of unexampled prosperity, founded on correct principles of business and proper standards of value, and all that was wanting was an amicable and satisfactory settlement of the presidential question.

The *Tribune's* Washington special, in speaking of the committee's plan, says it is a curious fact that extreme partisans on both sides in the House of Representatives express belief that this bill by its operation, will give the election to their opponent.

The *World's* Washington special says on the committee's plan Banks opposes, Crittenden supports, and congressmen from New York City favor the bill almost with unanimity, and most if not all the democratic congressmen from the State. The indications are, from a surface glance at the opinions of senators, such as have been given in the House, that the bill will probably command in the Senate a relatively larger vote than in the House.

In the House Hurd, Wallace, Southard, Cate, Bell and others opposed the bill, some saying that it is an outrage on the democratic party; others that it is unconstitutional.

Douglass, of Va., profanely says, "I will see it in — before I vote for it."

Watterson is not pleased with it, but won't make a fight.

Tarbox says, "No department of the government can abrogate any of its proper functions in favor of anybody. I prefer that Hayes should be counted in, and let the republican party take the responsibility of their fraudulent count than that Congress should stultify itself by delegating any of its powers to any one."

Cox elegantly says, "I want to let the matter soak till to-morrow before I express a decided opinion, for I would like to consider whether we can give any of our powers to any other fellows, and who those other fellows are."

Morton stated to one of the House members of the committee, this morning, that although he should not report, he should probably say nothing in the Senate to oppose the passage of the bill. He took strong grounds last session against the constitutional power of Congress to throw the settlement of the disputed questions, growing out of the presidential election, into the Supreme Court or into any tribunal outside of the two Houses.

Cameron and Booth were in favor as an expedient in the interest of peace.

Ingalls said he liked it as well as he would any prize package document, and did not believe it necessary to hear the counting over to find a supreme judge in favor of Tilden as President.

Sargent said he was unalterably opposed to the measure.

Eaton said the constitution and laws made the two Houses of Congress a tribunal to count the electoral vote, and he was opposed to transferring it to any other body, no matter how responsible.

The *Times* says it does not seem to have occurred to the House of Representatives that the powers which the majority of the House claim to exercise over the choice of States, find no warrant in the Constitution, and that the framers of that instrument took every precaution to guard against any interference by Congress with the legally declared verdict of the electoral

colleges. Nor do they appear to have grasped the fact that the only powers delegated by the plan are these of the Vice-President of the United States, and that the only fatal objections which can be urged against it are that it places the functions of that officer in the hands of a commission, whose origin is as unconstitutional as its composition is unwise. After a little reflection it will probably be discovered that the tribunal, constituted on a strict party basis, can only reach a decision either by the aid of a chance selection of the fifth judge of the Supreme Court or by what will be called the treachery of some of the senators or representatives composing the court. In any case the next president must owe his election under the proposed plan, to influence which will be strongly tainted by a piece of machinery which will neither harmonize with the other parts of the system nor contribute to the faith of the people in the sagacity of their rulers. The worst feature of the plan is that which constitutes five of the Supreme Court Judges arbiters between the two branches of Congress. Under no possible circumstances can they reach a conclusion that will be acceptable to both parties. How they are to choose a fifth judge, who will be the controlling member of the commission, we can only guess. Judges are, at best, but mortals, and at least one of the four indicated by the joint committees is reported to be a partisan of no very scrupulous sort. How, then, are four judges, known to be evenly divided in their political sympathies, to agree in regard to the selection of a fifth. He will probably be drawn by lot, and to constitute the latter the maker of the next President is to bring the Supreme Court into contempt.

CHICAGO, 19.—The *Inter-Ocean* editorially does not like the compromise on the electoral count. It is simply a roundabout way of tossing up for the prize, since on the choice of the fifth judge will probably depend the whole matter. He can hardly be chosen except by lot, as each of the two republicans will insist on a republican for the fifth place, and the democrats of a democrat. This may be placing a low estimate on the character of the judges, but we have no more confidence in them sitting on a political question than in the senators or representatives. It further says the plan is unworthy of its origin, wordy and childish.

The Brooklyn theatre, recently burned, will be rebuilt at a cost of \$80,000. The new theatre will seat 1,200 persons.

PHILADELPHIA, 19.—Judge Cadwallader has received the opinion of the Circuit Court in the matter of the distribution of the balance in the hands of the Centennial board of finance. The decision is adverse to the claim of the United States government.

BOSTON, 19.—George F. Hoar has been elected on the fifth ballot for United States senator.

WASHINGTON, 19.—The ice in the Potomac broke up last night, doing great damage. It sank two or three schooners, several tug boats and a number of scows, laden and unlabeled. The heavy massing of the ice on the shore lifted two schooners out of the river, and landed them high and dry on the wharf, tore others from their moorings and forced them upon the flats crushed and wrecked. The Georgetown College boat house and adjoining houses of the boat clubs all along the wharves were more or less damaged.

The executive committee of the Western Union Telegraph Company have been released by the committee on the powers and privileges of the House in counting the electoral vote. The House committee and Senate committee have appointed sub-committees to arrange for receiving from Presti, Orton the required telegrams, many of which are already in Washington.

DENVER, Col., 19.—Dr. M. Meyer Marx, a well known physician of this city, died suddenly this afternoon. The *Evening Times* states that it is probably the result of suicide, the deceased having been indicted for abortion.

PHILADELPHIA, 19.—Wool is in fair demand; fine grades are scarce, with an upward tendency; medium firm, moderate supply. Colorado washed 18 @ 22; unwashed 16 @ 17; extra and merino pulled 35 @ 38; No. 1 and super pulled 33 @ 38; Texas fine and medium 20 @ 25; coarse 16 @ 20; California fine and medium 12 @ 28; coarse 15 @ 25.