

BY TELEGRAPH.

AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 15.—A New Orleans Congressman has received a dispatch saying that full returns of the recent State election show a democratic majority of over 30,000. The democrats have elected 31 members of the Senate and 76 members of the House, while the republicans have only five Senators and 17 members of the House. Official returns are certain to give the democrats over 80 majority in the legislature on joint ballot. Senator Kellogg in commenting on this news, says if any evidence was needed to convince impartial judges that frauds of a gross character were perpetrated and intimidation resorted to in the county parishes to prevent negroes from voting, the returns furnish it. He thinks the result tells its own story.

The bill introduced by Senator Booth to-day for the relief of settlers on certain lands, etc., provides for the repayment of fees and commissions to be paid in good faith for void entries of public lands. It is a copy of the bill which he introduced in the last Congress and which then passed both Houses, but failed to receive the signature of the President. The bill introduced by Booth for the conversion of National gold banks is a duplicate of a measure recently introduced by Page in the House of Representatives.

Page to-day introduced a bill proposing an appropriation of \$100,000 for the erection of a postoffice at Sacramento. Page called on the Postoffice Department to-day to inquire whether any report had been received from a special agent, who, it appears, has been sent to California to investigate whether or not it is against government interests to allow Wells, Fargo & Co. to deliver letters upon which postage has been paid. He was informed that no report had yet come to hand and will be notified when one arrives. Page announced his intention to take issue very earnestly with any recommendation that may be made for interference with public accommodations of this sort, if the department seriously entertains such an idea.

The Colorado delegation in Congress, after a full consultation, have decided not to risk long postponement of final action on the Ute question by opposing the adoption by the House of the Indian committee's amendments to the Senate joint resolution, but will let it go through that body speedily, with a view to obtaining good terms through the instrumentality of a committee of conference. In this way they hope to secure the enactment of some satisfactory measure before the Christmas holiday adjournment.

Secretary Schurz denies that the Interior Department favored the amendments adopted by the House committee. He says, on the contrary, that he desires the removal of all hostile Utes to the Uintah reservation in Utah, except such of the non-hostiles, as will agree to relinquish tribal relations and cultivate small patches in Colorado, the same as other people.

There are indications to-day that a compromise will be effected among the democratic senators in regard to the Bayard resolution, by adopting some such amendment as that submitted this afternoon by Butler, of South Carolina, which proposes that the repeal of the legal tender power of greenbacks shall date from January 1st, 1855, instead of going into effect immediately. The apprehended danger of unsettling business by depreciating the value of greenbacks would, it is argued, be averted by thus giving time to prepare for the change.

BOSTON, 15.—Dispatches from Augusta, Maine, assert that a count has been made by the governor and council of election returns, which will result in the delivering of certificates to-morrow to a sufficient number of democrats to give that party a majority of both branches of the legislature. The dispatches assert a great feeling among the republicans owing to this condition of affairs.

NEW YORK, 15.—The promoters of the proposed railroad across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec are taking active measures to put the scheme into practical operation. A company has been organized and Wm. J. McAlpine been appointed consulting engineer and Mr. Van Brocklin, of the Metropolitan Elevated road, to supervise the location and manage the construction on

the Isthmus. A party of engineers, of whom Van Brocklin's brother is chief, sailed on Saturday for Mexico, and the barque *Ephraim Williams* is on her way with 500 tons of supplies, consisting of tools, cars, locomotives, rails and ties.

Persons interested in the road say it will save more than 1,200 miles, as compared with the Panama route, to California, and they predict that it will make a ship canal unnecessary.

A special to the *Evening Post* from Washington says: That Senator Saunders has received a letter from an ex-governor of Oregon saying they want 200,000 colored people in Oregon, and would offer every inducement for immigrants of that class, as they prefer them to the Chinese. Saunders is urged to use his influence to encourage the exodus of southern negroes to that State.

ST. PAUL, 15.—There has been a severe storm in the Red River country for two days, the thermometer falling very low. Reports indicate 25 to 40 degrees below zero. A Breckenridge special to the *Pioneer* says two Chinamen were frozen to death, and two men, H. G. Stoddard and James Nolan, are missing. They are supposed to have been lost in the storm and frozen.

SAN FRANCISCO, 15.—Sarah Winnemucca, daughter of Chief Winnemucca, of the Piutes, who has been lecturing in this city on the wrongs of her race, has made a lengthy affidavit to be forwarded to Secretary Schurz, asking in behalf of her people, first, that Mr. Reinhardt, the Indian agent at Malheur reservation, be removed; second, that Samuel Parrish, the former agent be reinstated, or, if that is impossible, that some other honest and humane man or some honest military officer be given charge of the agency; third, the Piute Indians be allowed to return from the Yakima agency, where they were sent in the winter of 1878-9, to Malheur agency. The affidavit then recites at length and specifies bad faith and cruelty on the part of Reinhardt in his conduct towards the Piutes, and asserts that during the recent Bannock war all the Piutes, with the exception of about 20 remained friendly to the whites.

Sarah Winnemucca has acted for a number of years as interpreter. The scout and guide, Frank J. Parker, employed as scout by Gen. Howard, and now conducting the Walla Walla Statesman, telegraphs that Sarah's statements made in her lecture here which are formulated in her affidavit, are true, and entitled to respectful consideration.

A Victoria dispatch of the 12th inst., says: Much anxiety is felt here over the condition of affairs near Kamloops, where the government agent Usahur was killed by half breed outlaws a few days ago as previously reported. Since the last report the outlaws have murdered a herder named John Kelley, at Stump Lake. They are now surrounded in a log house at the foot of Douglas Lake in Nicola Valley. They have repeating rifles and the settlers are poorly armed. The Indians are fearfully excited and an Indian revolt is feared.

A dispatch of the 13th says: The outlaws have shot and killed another settler. They are still corralled in the log house. The country is in arms. The Indians are sulky but quiet. A strong force of police with rifles and ammunition, left Victoria to-night by special steamer.

WASHINGTON, 16.—The District Supreme Court, in general terms, took up to-day the case of the lottery agent against Postmaster-General Key, in which the complainant seeks an injunction to restrain the enforcement of the recent order of the Post Office Department, forbidding the delivery to him of mail matter, postal orders, and registered letters. Counsel for respondent filed a demurrer, setting forth that no affirmative allegation asking for relief, had been made, as in equity there should have been, that no private letters had been withheld, that respondent is improperly sued as a citizen of Tennessee, that the Postmaster-General has the right of custody of the mails, and that the letters said to have been withheld are letters pertaining to the lottery business. There was some discussion as to whether the argument should proceed on the demurrer or on the bill. Chief Justice Carter said he had no doubt the demurrer should be heard first in the natural order of argument. Judge Ray then proceeded with his argument upon the demurrer, main-

taining that the President alone was responsible for the official action of his executive officers and that the proceedings should be against him and not against the head of a department, that bill could not properly be brought against the Postmaster General as a citizen of Tennessee. That the court had no jurisdiction and no power to issue the injunction prayed for, and that the Postmaster General, under the statute establishing the registered letter system, had full power to take the course he had.

Senator Carpenter in behalf of the complainant argued that the Postmaster General represented the President only in the exercise of discretionary executive power. The present case is evidently one in which the President could not act. This court, Senator Carpenter said, is called upon to say whether Congress can authorize the Postmaster General to try persons for sending improper matter by mail, to cut him off from the benefits of postal service if he, the Postmaster General, considers him guilty and then to tell the condemned individual that he has no right to come into a court of equity and have justice done him. The argument will be continued to-morrow.

The General Land Office recently decided that all affidavits required by law in support of applications for mineral patents must be made by the applicants themselves. Under this ruling a number of applications and affidavits filed in local land districts by agents of non-resident owners of mines have been rejected. The Acting Commissioner of the General Land Office has to-day, however, at the instance of Senator Hill, of Colorado, issued an order that no more cancellations of this sort shall be made until Congress takes action upon the pending bill, which provides that such applications and affidavits in cases of non-residents shall be valid if sworn to by their local agents cognizant of the facts.

NEW YORK, 16.—The *Times'* Washington special says: Cumulative evidence is furnished in the *Times'* dispatches in reference to the methods of increasing the expense of conducting the Star service of the Post Office Department, has excited great surprise among members of Congress not in sympathy with post office contractors. It is due to the Postmaster General to state that no one acquainted with him suspects that he had any knowledge of the recklessness with which the public funds have been expended for increasing the Star service. The Postmaster General has three assistants, and to each of them is assigned by law certain duties. In so far as these officers are subordinate to the Postmaster General, he is technically responsible for their official acts, but it will be readily understood that the head of so comprehensible a department as the Post Office cannot possibly supervise every act of his subordinates. Gen. Brady, Second Assistant Postmaster-General, has charge of all contracts for the transportation of mails, and is directly responsible for whatever may be irregular in this branch of the service. An important fact in connection with the irregularities is that the Postmaster General was absent on his California trip during last summer when most of the increase was awarded, and during his absence, General Brady was acting Postmaster-General. Brady, in speaking of this matter, proclaimed his responsibility, and invited an investigation. To do himself justice he should not wait for an inquiry, which will undoubtedly be ordered, but he should demand it. No one is more surprised at the revelations made in connection with the star service than the Postmaster-General, who says that he will not be contented until the matter is fully investigated by a committee of Congress. It is claimed by Gen. Brady and his friends, that if Congress had not authorized the establishment of about 2,000 additional routes, the money appropriated for the current year would have been sufficient and that the Department would not have been obliged to ask for an additional appropriation of \$2,000,000. It is true that 2,000 additional routes were authorized, and, according to General Brady, service was established on about 1,300 new routes thus authorized. The fact should not be overlooked however that the routes described in the *Times* upon which increased compensation was allowed are all old routes and it will be doubtless

discovered that whatever deficiency may be found to exist in the appropriation for star service is on account of the extravagant increase made in serving old routes and not on account of the establishment of new routes.

Two additional routes are given below in further illustration of the manner in which the compensation is increased on star routes. Route No. 39,104 runs from Santa Fe to Fort Stanton. The distance is 197 miles, and the schedule time was fixed at 69 hours for one time each week. The route was let in March 1878 to J. R. Miner for \$1,748. Subsequently two trips were added and \$3,496 additional was allowed. Then the speed was increased from 69 to 48 hours and \$7,866 additional compensation was paid, thus raising the cost of the service from \$1,748 to \$13,110 per annum.

Route 40,103 runs from Prescott, Arizona, to Washoe City, a distance of 190 miles, two trips a week, schedule time 48 hours. This route was let in March, 1878, to J. H. Watts, of Santa Fe for \$5,542. Watts failed but singular to say is still carrying mails on other routes. A. A. Brown succeeded Watts, receiving \$7,440 for continuing the service and sub-let the route to Morton Salisbury, an extensive and evidently influential contractor. Soon after, Salisbury took charge. One trip per week was added for which \$3,720 additional was paid. The speed was next increased from 48 to 31 hours, and \$1,737 additional was added. Not satisfied with this, Salisbury succeeded in having four more trips ordered for which he was allowed \$38,263 additional, thus increasing the expense of the route from \$4,542 to \$61,418.

The *World's* Washington special says: Mrs. Sprague has authorized her attorney to draw up papers for divorce from Gov. Sprague.

Last night in conversation with a *Tribune* correspondent representing the anti-polygamy law and bills on that subject introduced in the House, Delegate Cannon, of Utah, said he does not believe that those laws can ever be made effective; He declares that the desire to disfranchise Mormons is born of the hope, among impecunious people in Utah, that they will be able to control the offices and disburse the taxes of Utah if the scheme of disfranchisement is carried out. Cannon denies he has recently been married to a fifth wife. He says also that it would be contrary to all precedents for the House of Representatives to take any action toward expelling him. If he has offended against the laws, he is to be tried by the laws and not by Congress.

ST. LOUIS, 16.—The exodus from Texas to Kansas continues. A considerable number of colored people pass through Dallas daily, bound to that State. On the other hand quite a number have returned stating that they have been deceived about Kansas.

ROCHESTER, 16.—The answer of Bishop McQuaid, Catholic, of Rochester, in the libel suit by Frederick Danner, editor of the *Sonntags Blätter*, was made yesterday. The suit was brought in August claiming \$10,000 damages because a pastoral letter was read in church forbidding Catholics to read the paper on the ground that the editor defamed Fathers Sinclair and Pascalar of this city. The answer repeats that the editor's charges were false and denies any improper motive in the pastoral letters.

FOREIGN.

LONDON, 15.—It is reported that two English travelers have been captured by Greek brigands in Epirus, who demanded £4,000 for their ransom.

Davitt, Daly and Killen left Carrick-on-Shannon to-day for Dublin. They were accompanied to the railway station by a large crowd and a band playing Irish airs. The Attorney-General arrived at Carrick-on-Shannon last night, and was escorted to his lodging by 20 armed policemen. Thos. Brennan left Carrick-on-Shannon to-day for Dublin.

Ayoub Khan, Governor of Herat, left that city a fortnight ago with his troops, with the intention of attacking the British at Candahar. A correspondent at Candahar thinks that undoubtedly the Durians of Candahar and that district will unite with the British, if necessary, to resist Herat.

An appeal has reached London from the American missionaries at

Ooroo Meyah, Persia, in behalf of the population of that district and Turkish Kurdistan, who are starved. There is already a partial failure of the wheat and raisin crops. Owing to poverty only about one-tenth part of the usual import of food has been made and the importation has now entirely ceased. The government is doing little or nothing. Winter will intensify the distress and the need of relief is urgent.

The Viceroy of India telegraphs to-day that General Roberts reports that his force is now collected in the Shirpur Cantonment. The loss on the British side in fighting yesterday was 19 men killed, including two officers and 88 wounded, including three officers.

A Paris dispatch says that the Chamber of Deputies has agreed to vote 600,000 francs for the prosecution of the Savara railway survey.

Saturday, on the porch of the Limerick County Club House, an ejected tenant felled to the floor Lord Fermoy, who resides in the county of Limerick. Lord Fermoy remained senseless for a time. The assailant, who was immediately seized, was taken to prison.

LONDON, 16.—The *Mark Lane Express* review, says: Great distress has prevailed in agricultural districts, owing to the severity of the weather.

Gen. Roberts telegraphs from Cabul that one mounted gun was lost during Monday's engagement. Gen. Roberts estimates the number of the enemy at 30,000. Their fire, he says, was severe. He is confident of his ability to restore British authority in Afghanistan, but says reinforcements are necessary to enable him to act vigorously.

The Attorney-General has granted a petition in the case of Arthur Orton, otherwise known as the "Tichborne claimant," on the ground that matters have been put before him justifying the discussion of the point whether Chief Justice Cockburn should not have made the two sentences of seven years penal servitude, one of which has just expired, concurring instead of successive.

An explosion of blasting material in Wilhelmshluck salt mine at Schwablschall, Wurttemberg, killed 12 miners and injured eight, of whom two only are expected to recover. The disaster was increased by the miners in the panic endeavoring to open the doors outwards instead of inwards, thus preventing aid from reaching them before they had fallen unconscious from the effects of the fumes.

HALIFAX, 14.—Capt. Swimm, of the schooner *Laura Bruce*, reports when near a supposed uninhabited island off Marguana, West Indies, a small vessel, schooner rigged, was seen at the only place of anchorage at the island. The *Laura Bruce* people backed to get out of her way, but the stranger seemed desirous of being drawn on, and followed in every direction. At first the stranger was only under jib and foresail, but as the *Laura Bruce* showed a desire to get away, her mainsail was also hoisted, and it became evident the stranger meant to overhail them if possible, but after a chase of 50 miles the pirate looking craft drew away and no more was seen of her. She evidently was on a piratical expedition.

Women as Carpenters.

It is no doubt a refreshing sight to the male sex to see a woman assert herself as a carpenter.

If anything will establish the superiority of man over woman, an exhibition of her skill in "using tools" will do it.

There are various little jobs around a house which would come within a carpenter's province, and no head of a family likes to do them. He is never willing to take hold. And his wife wants them done right up. The door sags, or a window sticks, or the screws work out of the curtain fixtures, or the casters break on the dining-room table, or the cellar stairs get broken, or somebody tips back in a rocking chair and splits the concern into two chairs, or some other breakage or damage occurs.

The husband and father is busy reading about the last murder, or smoking a cigar not paid for, and he cannot attend to it. And the woman gets her indignation up, and says: "Well, I can do it myself." And generally adds something to the effect that men are not worth their salt, and she wishes she'd