

# By Telegraph.

## AMERICAN.

BOSTON, 15.—The last hours of Professor Agassiz were apparently passed in unconsciousness. At 2 p. m. on Sunday he had an attack similar to the one experienced before the suspension of respiration, which continued about half a minute, accompanied by other indications of approaching dissolution. These were succeeded by unnaturally rapid breathing, which continued to grow fainter with departing vigor. The patient lay upon his side, and beyond an occasional convulsive movement of the limbs there were no signs that he suffered pain.

The New England woman tea party, to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of throwing the tea into Boston harbor, took place this p. m. in Faneuil Hall; about five thousand persons were present.

WASHINGTON, 15.—Tremain, from the judiciary committee, has reported a bill for the repeal of the bankruptcy law, and has moved to suspend the rules, and pass it. The question is now pending.

The Supreme Court to-day decided the case of the Union Pacific Railroad against Penniston, treasurer of Lincoln Co., Nebraska, on appeal from the circuit court of that State. Judge Strong delivered the opinion, the court holding that the taxing power of the State is an attribute of sovereignty that exists independently of the constitution of the United States, and not derived from that instrument, and that it may be exercised to an unlimited extent on all property, trades, business and vocations existing or carried on within the boundaries of a State, except so far as it has been surrendered to the federal government either expressly, or necessarily by implication; the court therefore sustains the right of the State of Nebraska to tax the property of the Union Pacific Railroad within the boundaries of said State. Judge Bradley read a dissenting opinion, holding that the tax was an unlawful interference with instrumentalities created by the national government in carrying out the objects and powers conferred on it by the constitution. If a roadway may be taxed it may be seized and sold for the non-payment of the taxes in parts and parcels, and thus the whole purpose of Congress in creating the corporation and establishing the line may be subverted and destroyed. Field concurred in the opinion of Bradley. Hunt dissented from the opinion of the court. Swayne gave his views in his own way, but concurred in the conclusion reached by the majority of the court.

NEW YORK, 16.—Detective Stedler, of Detroit, makes a statement through a reporter, that he cannot get possession of Joab Lawrence, said to be a well known speculator, and for whose arrest the necessary papers have been made out by the governors of Michigan and New York, on the ground that sheriff Brennan's officers now hold Lawrence, and keep him at a hotel, he paying for the favor fifty dollars per day. Lawrence is charged with defrauding Eber B. Ward, of Michigan, of \$265,000, having, it is alleged, induced Ward to purchase stock in a Utah mine, which had been salted and was absolutely worthless.

WASHINGTON, D. C., 16.—Owing to the death, at a late hour last night, of Col. Fredrick Dent, father of Mrs. Grant, there was no formal meeting of the cabinet to-day, nor were visitors received by the President. The deceased was in his eighty-eighth year. He complained of being unwell yesterday, but no alarming symptoms were apparent until a short time before his death, which occurred without a struggle. The remains will be deposited in the family lot in the St. Louis cemetery. They will be accompanied west, probably to-morrow, by President Grant, General Dent, Marshal Sharp, Col. J. A. Casey, and other members of the family, together with General Babcock.

BOSTON, 16.—The under graduates of Harvard College and of the Boston Society of Natural History have adopted resolutions, appropriately noticing the death of Professor Agassiz. The funeral has been appointed for 2 p. m. on Thursday, in Appleton Chapel. A few seats will be reserved for immediate friends, the remainder will

be free. Many scientific and other bodies, of which the late Professor was a member, have expressed a desire to take part in the funeral, but it has been decided, as more conformable to what would have been his own wish, to decline all such offers.

CHICAGO, 16.—A Washington special says an effort, in the way of retrenchment, will be made at an early day, which will make trouble with officials all over the country. The advisability of cutting down the salaries of government officials from the highest down through the entire list, comprising assessors and collectors, both of internal revenue and ports, postmasters, etc., is under consideration, and will be brought before the House when opportunity offers.

John Killeen fell down the shaft of the Virginia Consolidated mine, Virginia, Nev., 1200 feet, and was instantly killed.

LONDON, 16.—The weather is very stormy to-day throughout the country, and on the coast. Much damage to shipping is reported.

The funeral services of Mr. Dent, father of Mrs. Grant, will take place at the executive mansion on Friday morning; the Rev. Tiffany will officiate. The remains will be taken to St. Louis, leaving here on that day. The pallbearers are Secretary Fish, General Sherman, Senator Bogg, and representatives Starward, Wells, Stone of Missouri, Lowndes of Maryland, and Negley of Pennsylvania.

A tornado passed over Milton, Calaveras Co., in this State, this afternoon, which nearly destroyed the entire town; several buildings were blown clear from their foundations, and others were blown down; several persons were badly hurt, but no lives were lost.

CHICAGO, 17.—The *Inter-Ocean's* Washington dispatch says that, at last light begins to dawn upon the Williams case, in spite of the reticence. The charges preferred against him in connection with the Judge Wright case, the Pollmus and Jackson suit were examined and rejected as baseless. He was then reported for confirmation, when a telegram, making serious charges in connection with alleged attempts to control political matters in Oregon was received from Oregon by the judiciary committee, and the character of the signers caused the committee to ask that the nomination might be recommended, and after consideration they have asked for the power to send for persons and papers, and the chances now are that no report can be made until after the recess.

The defeat of the bill to repeal the bankrupt law, as reported by Tremain, yesterday, is attributed to the fact that it was charged that Tremain, instead of reporting the bill agreed upon by the judiciary committee, presented one prepared by the attorney of Jay Cooke & Co., containing a provision for the settlement of existing cases in bankruptcy by a majority of the creditors, instead of allowing them to be settled under the law, as the committee had agreed upon.

AUBURN, N. Y., 17.—Charles Egles, convicted of the murder of Ettie Conklin, in May last, has been sentenced to be hanged on Friday, the 6th of February.

NEWARK, N. J., 17.—John E. Owens was seriously injured during the performance of Toodles last night, and is lying very ill at the Continental Hotel.

By the explosion of a boiler in the Independent coal mine, Contra Costa county, last night, John Hayes and James Daley were instantly killed, and David Williams, it is supposed, was fatally injured.

The Dayton Hotel, at Dayton, Nev., was destroyed by fire last night; D. Gould, Thomas Younger, John Morton, H. Nash and Mr. Clyster were burned to death.

The total vote cast in joint convention was—for Booth fifty-seven, Farley forty-one, Shafter twenty-one, Pendegast one. Booth gained one. Booth needs four more for election.

A correspondent of the *Tribune*, who was present at the surrender of the *Virginus*, telegraphs from Key West, that the surrender took place at Bahia Honda yesterday morning. The fast steam yacht *Dispatch* was selected to receive the *Virginus*, and Captain Whiting, of the *Worcester*, was designated to command her. He was accompanied by Lieut. Adolph Marlan, Master George A. Calhoun, and assistant engineer M. H. Lam-ben. The crew consisted of thirty-nine men from the *Paucnee*. The *Dispatch* sailed from Key West

on Sunday, and reached Bahia Honda about noon on Monday. The correspondent says that as soon as the *Dispatch* was signalled from the shore, a Spanish flag, bearing the crown, notwithstanding the republican edict abolishing that monarchical emblem, was flung to the breeze. We discovered the black side wheel of the steamship with her two smoke stacks about the middle of the harbor, beyond the fort, and in perfectly smooth water. No other craft except two or three coasting schooners were then visible, and it was not until we were about to come to anchor that we discovered a Spanish sloop of war lying close under the shore, about two miles and a half away. The *Dispatch* proceeded slowly and steadily along, and anchored about four hundred yards from the *Virginus*. Almost immediately afterward a boat from the Spanish frigate came alongside the *Virginus*, and at a quarter to 2 o'clock the stars and stripes were raised by Spanish hands and again floated over the vessel which carried Ryan, Varona and Fry and their unfortunate comrades to death. The boat was then pulled away. At the same moment we saw, by the aid of glasses, another boat let down from the Spanish vessel, which proved to be the captain's gig. It brought to the *Dispatch* a young Spanish naval officer in full uniform. He was courteously met at the gangway by Captain Rodgers. He introduced himself as Senor De La Camera, commanding the sloop of war *Favorita*. He was invited into the cabin, but being informed by Capt. Rodgers that Captain Whiting was to receive the surrender, he stepped briskly toward the latter, and the Spaniard and American lifted caps in a courteous salute. Commander De La Camera remarked that he had received a copy of the protocol requiring the surrender of the *Virginus*, and he was prepared to execute it either on that or on the following day. Captain Whiting replied that he was instructed to receive the vessel on Tuesday, but the hour would be left to the convenience of the Spanish commander. It was then agreed that the ceremony should take place at 9 o'clock on Tuesday a.m. Salutes were again exchanged, and Senor De La Camera left the ship, the interview not having consumed more than five minutes. In the afternoon Captain Whiting and Lieutenant Marian returned the call, and were received with the proper courtesies.

On Tuesday a.m., punctually as the bells on the *Dispatch* struck nine o'clock, the American flag flew to the flagstaff of the *Virginus*, and at the same moment a boat containing Captain Whiting and Lieutenant Marian put away from the *Dispatch*. As they ascended the accommodation ladder of the *Virginus* there was a single man on deck, who proved to be Senor De La Camera. He advanced and made a salute. The officers then read their respective instructions, and Captain De La Camera remarked that in obedience to the requirement of his government he had the honor to turn over the steamer *Virginus* to the American authorities. Captain Whiting accepted it, and ascertaining that a receipt would be acceptable he gave one. A word or two more was civilly spoken and the Spaniard stepped over the side, signalled his oarsmen, and in ten minutes was again upon the deck of his own vessel, having discharged, with becoming dignity, the unpleasant duty imposed upon him by his government.

The *Virginus* was in a most filthy condition. She was leaking considerably, and the Spanish captain stated that he had kept the pumps going continually since her arrival in order to keep the water down. Barring the filthy condition of the vessel she was better than was expected. The *Virginus* steamed about two hundred yards, all going well, when her engines refused to do duty, and it became necessary for the *Dispatch* to take her in tow. The two vessels went out of the harbor briskly, the Spanish flag being displayed by the forts as they passed. In an hour we were at sea. The *Virginus* was soon again under steam, and the *Dispatch* ceased to tow her, and the two vessels steamed together towards Tortugas. When the steamers reached Tortugas they found the U. S. sloop of war *Ossipee*, awaiting their arrival. When supplied with provisions and coal the *Virginus* will go to Key West,

express orders to that effect having been received from Washington.

Besides the officers and crews of the *Dispatch* and *La Favorita*, and the members of the prize crews, the correspondent of the *Tribune* was the only witness of the surrender. Not a single person appeared on the quay, and not an inhabitant of the town of Bahia Honda or surrounding country felt sufficient interest in the proceedings to walk to the scene of such an important historical event.

WASHINGTON, D. C., 17.—The Senate committee on naval affairs, this morning, agreed to report, without amendment, the bill recently passed by the House, to increase the enlisted force of the navy to ten thousand men.

The Senate committee on the judiciary, to-day, heard persons on the subject of the nomination of Williams for Chief Justice.

Davis introduced a bill in the Senate to-day, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to pay West Virginia half a million dollars, to be applied to re-building bridges, court-houses, school houses, churches, turnpike roads and other public property in said State, destroyed by the federal troops by military orders during the late civil war.

General Howard appeared before the House committee on military affairs to-day. He said he courted the fullest investigation, and waived any advantage that might accrue to him by the statute of limitation or otherwise, in order that he might be tried by a court martial. He thought he would be fully able to prove that he was not officially or morally responsible for any short comings by reason of his administration of the affairs of the Freedman's Bureau. General Vincent was also present, but as the charges against Howard are not printed, his examination was postponed until to-morrow.

NEW YORK, 17.—The failure of two large dry goods jobbing houses announced, Oberhalzer & Keefer, and Edson Bradley & Co., the former with liabilities of half a million, and the latter with \$450,000.

NEW YORK, 18.—The steamer *Edgar Stewart*, which made a successful landing of her fifth cargo of arms and men upon the Island of Cuba, is said to be fitting up at Baltimore for another run.

WASHINGTON, 18.—The funeral of Mr. Dent took place this morning from the executive mansion. In addition to the members of the family there were present all the heads of departments. The remains were placed on the Baltimore & Potomac R. R. train, and were accompanied by the President, Col. Grant, Casey, Gen. F. T. Dent, Marshal Sharpe and General Babcock.

CHICAGO, 18.—The following extract is from a letter from Mrs. H. G. Spafford, of this city, who is one of the survivors of the *Ville de Havre* disaster. The letter was written on the ship *Tri-mountain*. Mrs. Spafford's three children were lost: "The night of the accident was clear and starlight. About two o'clock in the morning we were awaked by a loud crash. I ran out to see what the matter was, and found at the end of the passage a great smash and all the state room broken in, and a general destruction. I ran on deck and found the sailors at the life boats, and then learned that we had been run into by a vessel, I could not realize that we were in danger, but ran down into my state room for Miss Nicolot and the children. I met Mrs. Goodwin in the passage, and told her not to be frightened, and I did not see her again. I stood upon the deck with the three children clinging at my skirts, but very calm and quiet. Maggie said, 'Pray, mamma.' Janet was in my arms. Suddenly the mast fell with a tremendous crash, killing many persons. A part struck my head and nearly felled me. Finally the opposite end of the vessel went down, and there was a perfect sea of heads in the water. In a second we were all washed in by the suction of the ship, and we were separated, Janet being wrenched from me by the falling timbers and the general confusion. I rose and found a plank, which I held on to until picked up by the English vessel that struck us. I cannot tell more. There was no attempt made to save us by the French. They tried to get down the life boats, but there being no orders or discipline, nothing was done. The steamer sank in ten minutes after she was struck. Willie Culver was called from his state room,

but I did not see him on deck. There were only eleven ladies saved and one child, eighty-six altogether out of 306. The passengers were very calm and quiet until we were carried into the water. We have now been a week upon the vessel, and how we have lived I cannot tell. May I never see so sad a sight again. Not a lady here but what has lost either children, husband, or brother."

SAN FRANCISCO, 18.—W. S. Havens chief bookkeeper of the Savings Loan Society, killed himself yesterday by shooting through the head. He was a native of New York.

King Lunallo, of the Sandwich Islands, has withdrawn the proposition for a reciprocity treaty with the United States. His ministers resigned, but at his urgent request withdrew their resignations. The natives seem to believe that reciprocity means annexation.

BOSTON, 18.—The funeral of Agassiz took place from Appleton chapel, Harvard, which was profusely decorated with funeral emblems and flowers, a tribute of respect from the students. The services were extremely simple. They began with chanting a selection from Cherubini's Requiem Mass, by the Harvard Glee Club, and the burial service from King chapel. The Liturgy was then read by Rev. Dr. A. P. Peabody, preacher of the University, and was immediately followed by the singing of the hymn "Go to the Grave." As the body was removed the Dead March in Saul was performed on the organ. A long cortege followed to the burial place, in Mount Auburn Cemetery. The church was densely crowded, and many were unable to gain admittance. Among those present were Vice President Wilson, Governor Washburn, Ex-Governor Claflin, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Ralph Waldo Emerson, R. L. Reed, and a large number of other distinguished persons. The church bells in Boston and Cambridge were tolled and flags were at half mast during the funeral.

WASHINGTON, 18.—A full pardon and restoration to duty is promised deserters from the Navy who shall surrender by the first of February next.

The President has signed the bill for the redemption of the loan of 1858, and the Secretary of the Treasury is changing such bonds to the new five percents.

Geo. A. Christian, late clerk of the Surgeon General's office, and Charles Green, both convicted on a charge of disinterring dead bodies and selling them, were, to-day, sentenced to eleven years imprisonment and to a fine of one thousand dollars.

TORONTO, 18.—Wm. Hamilton & Sons, proprietors of the St. Lawrence foundry in this city, have failed; their liabilities exceed \$200,000.

ST. LOUIS, 19.—On Wednesday last a farmer living near Cambridge, Mo., was attacked by five men while on his way home from selling his hogs, they killed and robbed him of one thousand dollars. A gentleman coming along shortly after found the dead body, and overheard the robbers in an adjacent thicket quarreling over the division of the money, and quietly gathering a few neighbors they surrounded and captured three of the gang and hanged them to a tree, and went in pursuit of the other two.

NEW YORK, 19.—Captain Surmount, of the *Ville de Havre*, has made a statement concerning the disaster to the vessel and those on board, but it adds little to what was previously known of the occurrence. He says, "I got from the sofa at two, and left my cabin. At this moment a ship under all sail showed herself all at once on our path, and I had hardly time to jump on the bridge, when the *Ville de Havre* was already struck right in the side opposite the mainmast. The damage was enormous, being a hole of at least sixteen feet, rendering it certain that the ship could remain very little time afloat. The engine was stopped at once, and the valves were opened. The water rushed in so quickly that there was not time to close the door of the bulk head, which separated the engine from the boilers. Besides, the bulk head of the coal bunker having been forced into the engine, the water poured in that way into the boiler room. I estimate that there were more than twelve minutes between the collision and the sinking of the ship. Captain Robertson, of the *Lochearn*, says ten minutes, others say