

BY TELEGRAPH.

AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 12.—To-day was the most remarkable one for activity and buoyancy in the history of the stock exchange. Excitement was at fever heat throughout, and in many cases not only were the highest prices of the year made but the highest were attained. The dealings, which were on an enormous scale, were well distributed and taxed severely the capacity of the stock telegraph instruments to report them, and orders poured in so continuously from all parts of the country that the brokers in many instances experienced considerable difficulty in executing them. Nearly the entire list participated in the activity, and many stocks heretofore quiet became prominent in dealings.

In addition to the influences mentioned above, a further impetus was given to the advancing market by the reports that ten millions more bonds will soon be purchased for the government sinking fund. These reports were probably based upon the fact that for the first ten business days of Nov. the customs and internal revenue receipts have aggregated over one million dollars a day average and the receipts from customs alone for the first nine days of this month averaged about \$625,000 a day. This will result in a large surplus of revenue for the current month, and its prospective continuation, which may be looked upon as assured, will enable the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase more of the six per cent. bonds early next month. In the meantime, however, at the rate of stocks of all speculative descriptions are going up, it will not take long to use up the surplus ten million dollars thrown into the market by the recent purchase. Substantial brokers are requiring substantial margins, and some have lost accounts because of the refusal to carry stocks on five per cent. deposit.

The Central Pacific paid into the Treasury to-day, at Washington, \$220,000 on account of the sinking fund.

The transactions to-day reached the enormous amount of 624,000 shares.

Charles E. Smith, of the *Albany Journal*, telegraphs the official returns now coming in show small, but almost uniform republican gains. With the changes thus far recorded, our footings give Hastings 957. Carr loses considerably in Monroe County, but gains enough elsewhere to make up. Wendell's net gains thus far are over his estimated majority yesterday about 300. Both appear to be safe by about 2,000.

WASHINGTON, 12.—Among the questions to which the commissioner of agriculture has recently been giving his attention, is that of the redemption of comparatively arid table lands which stretch along the eastern base of the Rocky Mountains from our northern to the southern border. The subject is considered very important, involving as it does the recovery of a tract of country equal to one-fifth of the productive area of the United States. Where it has been possible to subject the land to irrigation, astonishing agricultural richness has been found, and at present the facilities for irrigation by means of mountain streams extend no further than from 40 to 50 miles from the base of the range. With the problem of irrigation solved, these plains would be rated among the richest agricultural regions of the country. As preliminary to practical tests, the commissioner has engaged the service of Brislin Walker, late editor of the *Republic*, to proceed to Colorado and report upon the possibilities of artificial irrigation, especially with reference to artesian wells, which in those sections where mountain streams are not available, seem to be the only possible source of supply for irrigating purposes. There are now some 5,000 artesian wells in successful operation, and experiments made by French engineers in the Great Sahara Desert indicate that the plan is feasible. At some of the wells sunk by M. Jus, water was obtained at a depth of only 300 or 400 feet and the discharge was equal to 1,100 gallons per minute. There is every reason why similar results should be obtained in the strata underlying the table lands of Colorado. Mr. Walker, by his training capacity for close observation will be able to make an intel-

ligent study of the situation. This report will be looked for with interest.

Secretary Schurz has received the following telegram from Special Agent Adams, written at Los Pinos Agency, Nov. 10th, and forwarded via Lake City: Arrived here yesterday and immediately proceeded to Chief Ouray's house, where I met about 20 of the chiefs and head men of the White River Utes, who had come in obedience to Ouray's orders. The others are expected. The camp of these Indians is about 50 miles distant, on the Gunnison River. Nothing is changed in the situation here. Chief Ouray is positive that when satisfied of the guilt of the Indians, he will have power enough to arrest and hold them.

The Treasury Department, to-day, purchased 365,000 ounces of fine silver for the Philadelphia and San Francisco Mints.

Five hundred and fifty-one thousand ounces of standard gold bullion, being a portion of that received from Europe, was to-day ordered by the Treasury Department from the assay office in New York to the Philadelphia mint for coinage. The value of the bullion was about \$10,000,000.

The Director of the Mints said to-day: That until further orders, the coinage of gold by the United States mints will be confined to eagles and half-eagles.

PHILADELPHIA, 12.—At the investigation to-day of the cause of collision between the steamer *Champion* and the ship *Octavia*, it was ascertained there was no look-out on the *Champion*. It was customary to take the man off the look-out for other work.

HARRISBURG, 12.—Returns from every county in the State give the total vote for State Treasurer as follows: Butler, republican, 280,153; Barr, democrat, 221,815; Sutton, greenback, 27,207; Richardson, prohibition, 3,239.

ST. PAUL, 12.—Official returns from the State now completed will give Pillsbury, who was badly scratched, 15,000 majority, and the rest of the republican State ticket 20,000.

NEW YORK, 13.—A fair business done at the wharves of California vessels to-day, and prospects are brighter than for some time past. The *Seminole* is the leading vessel and will probably finish by the 17th inst. Rates remain unchanged. There has been no arrangement made yet between the Pacific Mail Company, and the roads are looking to the harmonious working of the two companies, notwithstanding the positive assertion of the railroad man at Chicago.

There is evidence of diphtheria in Brooklyn which causes some alarm. Deaths from that cause last week were 35, this week 87.

The annual reports of the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics at Washington, which has just been completed and printed, shows that the last fiscal year was the most remarkable one in the history of American commerce. The quantity of products of the soil exported was wonderful, and the balance of trade was over \$269,000,000 in favor of the United States. Only 23 per cent. of the goods exchanged by sea were carried in American vessels.

ERIE, Penn., 13.—Mr. and Mrs. Brown were arrested here last evening and bound over in \$2,000, for inhuman conduct to an adopted girl, 11 years of age. She is one mass of ulcers and bruises and will probably die.

LAWRENCE, 13.—The north, or temporary span of the bridge across Kansas River here, was carried away to-day. The river rose four feet in two hours, carrying an immense flood of wood against the trestle, which forced it out. Numbers of persons were on the span when it started, but all escaped without injury.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., 13.—Davis & Hebron's hub and spoke factory at Paducah, was burned to-day; loss \$28,000.

The blacksmith shop of Wilson & Daugherty was burned at Frankfort, to-day. The remains of the child of M. A. Jones were found in the ruins. It is supposed that Wilson, who is an ex-convict, murdered the child, and fired the place to destroy the evidence of the crime. It is thought the remains of Ezekiah Gardiner, who disappeared last Saturday, are also in the ruins of the shop. The lynching of Wilson is threatened, and the governor has been asked to call out the militia.

GALVESTON, 13.—A special from

El Paso says: A negro discharged a gun this side of the Rio Grande and the bullet killed a Mexican and wounded a boy in Piedras Negros, opposite, causing great excitement there. The negro escaped.

PHILADELPHIA, 13.—President Hayes has commuted to 18 years imprisonment the sentence of Isaac Jacobson the sailor convicted of the murder of Chas. D. Brooks, mate of the ship *Sea King* and sentenced to be hanged January 30th.

WASHINGTON, 13.—The annual report of the General Land Office exhibits the following disposal of public lands in California during the last fiscal year: Taken for homesteads, 223,111; purchased for cash under pre-emption entries, 114,228 acres; timber culture entries perfected, 15,619 acres; taken under desert land law, 24,067 acres; cash receipts from all sources \$276,505; incidental expenses, \$48,342, only about 9,500 acres were patented to the State of California last year, under the federal grants, for all purchasers, 5,272 being the total for indemnity school selections. The total number of desert land entries in the whole country was 530 embracing an aggregate of 169,996 acres or only about half the totals of preceding years.

The desert land entries in Nevada aggregate about 25,000 acres; in Montana, 39,000; in Arizona, 15,000; and in Oregon, 5,000.

The General Land Office report incorporates large portions of a report received from Surveyor General Wagner. It shows that only about \$30,000 was allotted for the survey of California agricultural lands, 10,000 for timber lands, 4,000 for private lands, and about \$32,000 was advanced by settlers and railroad companies for surveys. The total number of acres of public lands in California surveyed during the last fiscal year was 1,910,431 acres leaving about 4,100,000 still unsurveyed. Surveyor General Wagner says that nearly all the lands in California now unsurveyed should be sectionized without restrictions as to their contractor and recommends the removal of all restrictions. He says grazing and other lands are so intermingled that it is practically impossible to properly draw the line of demarcation, consequently small tracts of valuable land must be left unsurveyed. The restrictions have not resulted economically to the government as the resurvey frequently necessitated by this patchwork system costs more than the saving, besides giving rise to much litigation on account of changes in the topography during long periods intervening. He says it is imperative necessary to complete the survey of the standard and meridian lines and township extensions at the earliest practicable date in order to avoid in the future serious errors resulting from the present piecemeal system. The subdivision into sections may then proceed as settlements demand and congress makes appropriations.

Wagner makes a strong argument for liberal appropriations and shows that the policy of Congress in making such limited provision for surveys in California has operated injuriously to the best interests of the State and also of the national treasury. He calls attention to the fact that occupants of unsurveyed lands are unable to acquire a title, and although the State has passed laws for the protection of these actual settlers, it also protects speculators in holding large tracts without cost or taxation, which would be impossible, if the lands were surveyed and subject to entry. In that event these tracts would furnish homes for a large number of families by simply fencing, using and occupying them.

He reinforces his plea for increased appropriations, by showing that much land in California, formerly considered worthless is now discovered to be very valuable.

He instances the San Joaquin Valley lands and also quotes articles from the *San Francisco Bulletin*, showing that public attention is being directed toward the neglected belt of land between the foot hills and the snow lines of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, where are thousands of acres sufficiently level for farming purposes. He also gives tables showing the rapid development of the California wine producing interests. He remarks that even the scant products of the Mojave desert are now being utilized by the manufacture of paper from a species of cactus, but as this is too thinly scattered to justify the purchase of land from the government, and as

the industry, although giving promise to become valuable to California manufacturing interests under favorable conditions, requires an outlay of considerable capital for machinery. He recommends that Congress be required to authorize these lands to be leased to any party desiring them for a term of years, the lands, however, to remain subject to entry under the homestead or pre-emption laws.

Wagner also argues that all money which may be appropriated by Congress for surveys in California would in a few months be returned to the Treasury by the sales of lands. Thus for instance the total amount expended last year in the survey, sale and disposition of public lands in California was \$103,747, and during the same period the sales yielded to the Treasury \$459,773. He also shows the necessity for liberal appropriations to bring up long accumulated arrears of office work and asks \$20,000 for that purpose besides \$135,000 for ordinary land surveys, \$50,000 for timber lands, \$10,000 for the survey of private land claims.

Wagner recommends that the law authorizing homestead and pre-emption surveys to be made upon deposits of estimated cost be extended in agricultural lands in mineral districts and also to desert lands and timber lands. He says: Very little of the timber land in California has been surveyed, and as enormous quantities of timber are used in the neighborhood of the mines, and as there are no adequate means of protecting unsurveyed lands, they are rapidly being despoiled. He therefore reports that the timber lands should be surveyed, so that persons entitled to enter them under the law of '73 may obtain a title. He adds: There is no danger that non-resident speculators would monopolize the timber lands under this law, for, aside from its safeguards, they would be no better able to protect the lands from speculation than the government.

The Surveyor General says, in regard to mineral lands, that the rectangular system is sorely understood by all classes that it cannot be supplemented by any so-called scientific system; that the contract system of survey is better than the proposed system of salaried deputies; that the classification now made by deputy surveyors is as accurate as can be made at moderate cost, and that the whole matter should be left undisturbed. The total number of mines surveyed thus far in California is nearly 2,000.

The auditor of the railroad accounts to-day received from the California office of the Central Pacific Company all the reports required by him under the provisions of the Thurman law, exhibiting the business of that company from July 1st, 1877, to September 30th, 1879. Auditor French pronounces the reports very full and satisfactory, and says: "That no further action will be taken on the suits for forfeiture, etc., which were instituted by the Government against the company last spring, for previous non-compliance with this requirement." The Auditor remarked that an erroneous statement has been published in some quarters to the effect that payment was made under protest to the Central Pacific Company. This still leaves that company indebted to the Government \$6,000,000 on account of the six months ended last December. Yesterday's payment fulfilled all requirements of the Thurman act, and of all other existing laws in regard to that period. Auditor French has, however, made demand upon the company for \$60,000, which he claims should be paid into the United States treasury in compliance with alleged requirements of the original Pacific railroad acts, for the payment of 5 per cent. of the net earnings prior to June 30th, 1878.

Upon representations of numerous affidavits of special agents of the postoffice department, Postmaster General Key has arrived at the conclusion that all lottery agents are doing fraudulent business within the purview of his statutory powers, concerning "Schemes to defraud the public." He has, therefore commenced the issuance of special orders to postmasters at specified cities, who are directed by name against all persons known to be concerned in the lottery business, forbidding postmasters to pay any postal money order or to deliver any registered letter addressed to the person thus named. The money orders and registered letters are to be returned to the senders and let-

ters are to be stamped with the word "fraudulent."

NEW YORK, 13.—The *Sun* has received official returns from 60 counties in the State. A close comparison between these and unofficial returns from the other 10 counties, indicates that Hoskins, republican candidate for lieutenant governor, has defeated Clarkson N. Potter by about 1,100 majority; that Carr, republican candidate for secretary of State, is elected by nearly the same majority; that Wadsworth, republican candidate for comptroller, will have an increased majority over that of Hoskins, and that of Ward and Wendell. Republicans are also elected as attorney general and treasurer. The majority for Horatio Seymour, jr., democratic candidate for engineer and surveyor, will be toward 10,000; John Kelly's vote is increased over previous estimation and will reach 75,000.

The Oregon Railway and Navigation Company's stock was among the new securities placed in the Stock Exchange list yesterday. It sold at 109. The stock was placed on the free list and bonds at the end of the regular list.

CHICAGO, 13.—Col. W. R. Hallwell, of Indianapolis, waited on Gen. Grant this morning, with an invitation from Col. Thomas A. Scott, to accept the hospitalities of the Pennsylvania Railway, which Gen. Grant accepted. He stated that his programme was substantially as follows: Leaving here about the 30th inst., he will return to Galena, where he will rest for three weeks. He will then come to Chicago and leave by the morning train on the Pittsburg, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railway, December 9th, for Indianapolis, making only one hour's stop at Logansport and arriving in Indianapolis at 2 p.m. He will stay there one day, being tendered a reception by the State Soldiers' Re-union, thence he goes to Louisville one day, to Cincinnati two days, and in turn to Columbus, Pittsburg, Philadelphia and New York, wintering in the South, possibly in Havana.

DENVER, Col., 13.—The sale of the Johnnie Bull and Domingo mines, Silver Cliff, was consummated to-day. The money was paid, the deeds delivered, and possession taken. Wm. F. Scheffler, W. M. Lent, ex-United States Senators Dreyer and McDonald, and associates, all of New York City, are understood to be the purchasers. The exact consideration is unknown, but it is supposed to be from \$750,000 to \$800,000.

A special from Los Pinos states that the chiefs are gathering there. Captain Billy, Waro Piah and Cajo, all Uncompagne Utes, who were at White River at the time of the massacre, and all emissaries of Ouray, have come and are now at the agent's office. Ouray requests that all newspaper men be excluded from the councils.

ATLANTA, 13.—General Toombs in an interview regarding his dispatch to the Chicago *Daily News*, says: "The interpretation of the language is that the result of the war was the death of union and that the present government is consolidated one and not a confederacy."

CLEVELAND, O., 13.—William Thorpe, proprietor of a large flouring mill in Meadville, Pa., made an assignment this morning. Judgments amounting to over \$100,000 were entered against him. The assets are believed to meet the liabilities were they available.

GALVESTON, 13.—A *News* special from El Paso says. A report reached there of a fight occurring a week ago between Indians and Americans in the vicinity of the Sierra Majada. Fourteen Americans were killed. No names or details are given.

PORTLAND, Me., 13.—It is reported from Augusta that the State authorities have certificates prepared to send out, giving seats to 11 democratic senators and 85 representatives, giving them a majority and quorum in case the republicans retire.

PHILADELPHIA, 13.—The annual meeting of the general committee of the Church Extension Society of the Methodist Church, began here this morning. The report to the board for 10 months showed a small increase in receipts over the 12 months of 1878.

CLINTON, O., 13.—The coal miners of Tuscarawas Valley, in a delegates' convention to-day, after an exciting session, resolved to demand 85 cents per ton for mining. They have been receiving 55 cents and lately advanced to 70 cents.