THE DAILY RECORD-UNION.

MONDAY.....FEBRUARY 16, 1880.

SATURDAY'S DISPATCHES

[SPECIAL TO THE RECORD-UNION.]

NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS.

The Balance of Trade Going Against the United States.

PASSENGERS COMING WEST BY RAIL.

Labor Agitation in Denver—Consolidation of the Working Classes.

A SHERMAN CLUB ORGANIZED IN NEW YORK.

Strife Among Railroad Companies Out of Chicago.

MISCELLANEOUS FOREIGN NEWS ITEMS.

The Claims Treaty Between France and the United States.

Etc.....Etc.....Etc.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Capital Notes, from Our Own Correspondent.

THE BALANCE OF TRADE ON THE WRONG SIDE.

WASHINGTON, February 14th.—The balance of trade has, comparatively, for so long a time been in our favor that the popular impression has been created that it is destined permanently to remain so. Sagacious and experienced business men have, however, anticipated a return of the period when the balance of trade would shift, and the outflow of specie from this country recommence. This has been the view of the Treasury Department; and while there has been no apprehension felt as to the ability to maintain specie payments, it has been seen that over-confidence might have the effect to seriously check the era of prosperity on which the country has entered. From returns received at the Department it is shown that imports at New York for the last month were greater than ever before for the same month for any year, reaching in value $40,000,000. New York does about two-thirds of the import business of the country, and one-half of the exports. It is calculated from the figures for the month of January that the balance of trade against the United States for the last month was not less than $10,000,000, and it is thought that this balance will increase rather than decrease. Should this be the case, its effect will soon be felt in every department of business. The character of the imports shows that our people are again running into the extravagance and indulgence in luxuries which pertained to the war era.

THE NEW RAILROAD BILL.

Notwithstanding the general impression that the substitute bill, adopted yesterday by a majority of the House Committee on Commerce, was entirely acceptable to railroad companies, if not directly procured by their influence, it is ascertained that the ninth section of the bill is extremely objectionable to them, and that on account of its incorporation in the measure they will oppose the whole bill in the House, unless it be eliminated, or materially modified. The objection to it is that they are not willing to intrust the men appointed by the President, who would form a controlling majority of the proposed Board of Commissioners, with absolute power to determine what rates of toll are "fair and reasonable." The section referred to is as follows:

SEC. 9. No company or companies, railroad corporation or corporations, person or persons so employed as aforesaid in operating a line, or lines, or railroad through two or more States, or parts of States, as aforesaid, shall charge, collect, demand or receive more than a fair and reasonable rate of toll or compensation for the transportation from one State or Territory, or another State or Territory, or to and from any foreign country, so far as the rate shall relate to the commerce between the States, of freight of any kind or description, or for the use and transportation of any railroad car upon its track; and for each and every violation of this Act by charging, collecting, demanding or receiving more than such reasonable rate, the company or companies, corporation or corporations, organization or organizations, person or persons, so offending, shall be jointly and severally liable for extortion, and subject to forfeitures and penalties hereinafter provided.

SENATOR LAMAR.

Senator Lamar arrived to-day, and will take his seat Monday. He still uses a crutch.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE.

The House met for debate only, and was addressed by Bright on funding the public debt. He attacked the money oligarchy which had for so long a time dictated legislation, the rapacity of which there appeared to be no bound or bottom.

Finley advocated his bill to equalize bounties. He asserted that it would not probably involve the expenditure of more than $20,000,000, instead of $100,000,000, as estimated by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Hayes discussed the many phases of the financial question, stating that he hoped that for one session, at least, Congress would cease all attempts to change or disturb it. The people wanted no more Congressional tinkering with the currency.

Joyce spoke in opposition to the reciprocity treaty between Canada and the United States.

Myers followed, in favor of the bill introduced some time ago by himself for the retirement of National Bank notes.

Labor Agitation in Denver.

DENVER, February 14th.—Denver is at present undergoing the first labor agitation of its history, and as the agitation is general, the feeling manifest among laboring men and others is quite intense. The laboring classes have for several months past been gradually forming Unions, until twenty-one organizations of the kind have been perfected. They comprise printers, carpenters, plumbers, brick-masons, stone-masons, painters, plasterers, horse-shoers, saddlers, cigar-makers, molders, barbers, waiters, cooks, blacksmiths, cabinet-makers, locomotive engineers and firemen. These Unions met in mass convention to-night, and took steps to organize a Trades Assembly, which, it is claimed, will constitute a voting strength of 1,900, and a commercial patronage of $125,000. It is believed by the leaders of the movement that this consolidation of the working classes bids fair to play a strong part in the politics of Denver and the entire State. The steps taken to-night in consolidating these different trades were caused directly by the recent action of two of the newspapers in reducing the price of composition. During December the local Typographical Union advanced its schedule of prices from 40 to 45 cents per 1,000 ems for night work, and made corresponding advances in all branches of the trade. The advance was accepted at the time, though with poor grace, by the proprietors. Some two weeks ago the *Evening Times* demanded a reduction on the part of its workmen to the old prices. This they declined to make, and the office was filled with non-Union men. Early this week the Rocky Mountain *News* duplicated the *Times'* demand, which was at first rejected, then accepted, and again rejected; the result being that the *News* office was filled with printers not members of the Union. The meeting to-night was enthusiastic, though orderly, and was attended by fully 1,500 people. It was addressed by several persons, including Brick Pomeroy. Among other schemes which the Workingmen have on foot is that of starting an afternoon paper, with Pomeroy at the helm.

Organization of a Sherman Club in New York.

NEW YORK, February 14th.—The "John Sherman Club" was organized to-night by merchants, with Samuel A. Hames as President. The resolutions adopted declare: "That he has maintained the public faith and lifted high the standard of national honor. He knows the resources of the country and its needs. With him for President we know that the whole influence and power of the Executive office would be wielded to enforce the law; to maintain liberty and the rights of all men, white and black, throughout the length and breadth of the land; to maintain resumption; to embody into law sound financial and economic measures; to nurture and increase our manufactures and our commerce, and build on the rock of solid finance all the business interests of the country. We therefore advocate his nomination for President of the United States."

Strife Among Railroad Companies.

CHICAGO, February 14th.—The sales of cheap tickets to Colorado points were again large yesterday. Every precaution is taken to prevent it, but scalpers, nevertheless, secured large numbers, and when the rates are restored by the companies, can do a very paying business by selling at full figures, or selling at a slight reduction, and thus having the advantage over the companies in making sales. The *Inter-Ocean* states a possible outcome of the pending difficulty, heretofore mentioned in these dispatches. A strife among the railroads out of Chicago, on tickets to Colorado and other points, has been the attraction of travel from the East via Chicago that would otherwise have gone by way of St. Louis. And this fact makes the St. Louis officials very anxious to have peace brought about. It also affects the Wabash line, and as the Wabash does not think it can afford to stand quietly by and look on, there is trouble there, too. The Fort Wayne and Wabash, having a "ticket deal," the Fort Wayne is interested in whatever affects the Wabash. It is thus seen that there is every chance of a general war, should this strife on Colorado fares from Chicago continue much longer, and a war on West bound rates from the East generally to all points in the West. If this was brought about it would not be a long time before tickets would be cheap both ways, and all over the country. The meeting yesterday to adjust this matter was resultless, and they will have another conference to-day.

Storms on the Atlantic.

NEW YORK, February 14th.—Vessels now arriving bring terrible stories of a storm on the Atlantic February 1st. When the Union steamship Wyoming arrived yesterday two seamen were sent to the hospital with broken legs. The Anchor steamer Devonia sent one man in the same condition. The Wyoming reports that the storm came up in the afternoon so suddenly that before the summons "all hands on deck" could be obeyed the storm struck the vessel, and the entire deck watch of eight men were disabled. Other vessels bring similar reports of exceptionally heavy weather.

Western-Bound Passengers.

OMAHA, February 14th.—The following through passengers were on to-day's train, leaving at 12:15 P. M., to arrive in Sacramento February 18th: Edward S. Thayer, wife and daughter, New Bedford, Mass.; H. P. Isaacs, Walla Walla; W. F. Busher and wife, Decatur, Ill.; J. H. Clough, Chicago; Mrs. Edward Terry, Washington, D. C.; Miss E. E. Cottrell, Mystic, Conn.; Dr. E. N. Woodward, San Francisco; James A. Hunt, Arizona.

Sixty-eight through emigrants left on last night's emigrant train, to arrive in Sacramento February 21st.

Narrow Escape of Royalty.

CHICAGO, February 14th.—The *Tribune's* Ottawa special says: The beauty and fashion of the city assembled this evening for the purpose of being presented to the Governor-General and Princess Louise. At 9 o'clock, the hour fixed for the arrival of the vice-regal party, it was announced that an accident had occurred to the Governor-General's party. The greatest excitement prevailed, and the ceremonies were at once postponed for the evening. The escape of the royal party was most miraculous. It appears that the party were driving in a covered sleigh, and on turning the corner near the entrance to the Rideall grounds, it capsized, throwing the driver from his seat. The horses took fright and ran away, dragging the sleigh on its side and tossing the occupants about in a dangerous manner. While running at a furious rate the horses were caught by two men, who sprang out in the street and at the risk of their lives seized the horses by the bits. The vice-regal party were taken to a house and physicians summoned, who dressed their wounds. It is thought that none of the party are seriously injured.

Acklin's Case.

NEW YORK, February 14th.—The *World's* Washington special, on Acklin's situation, says: One member of the committee said today: "Don't ask me what the report will be; the facts are bad enough." Another member said: "We shall probably be compelled to report that Acklin is guilty as indicted by the newspapers, and let the House take such action as it may deem proper."

A Washington special says: It is now probable that Acklin, of Louisiana, will be expelled for his connection with the alleged bogus report from the Foreign Relations Committee. If expelled, it will be by votes from both sides of the House.

Desperado Arrested.

DENISON (Tex.), February 14th.—For the past two years trains on the Missouri, Kansas and Texas road have been fired at just after dark, near Caddo, Indian Territory. Cab windows had been smashed, cabooses perforated, and employes wounded. United States Marshal Ayers caught a man named Meyers to-night in the act of firing on a train, and so desperately did Meyers resist arrest that Ayres shot him fourteen times before he succumbed.

Dealing in "Futures" Decided to be Gambling.

MEMPHIS, February 14th.—Judge Pierce, in the Circuit Court to-day, in the case of Gilbert, Breza & Co., of Chicago, vs. Sidney Cook—suit brought for additional margin in a wheat transaction—decided that dealing in futures is gambling, and is a subject for the Grand Jury.

Fires.

CHICAGO, February 14th.—John L. Robertson's drug store, at Sandoval, Ill., was burglarized yesterday of $5,000 in money and then burned. Loss by fire, $10,000.

CHICAGO, February 14th.—Baumberger, Bloom & Co.'s furniture warehouse was partially burned to-night. Loss on the building, $50,000; insurance, $22,000. Loss on stock, $12,000 to $15,000; insurance, $29,000. Stock damaged largely by water.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The Distress in Ireland.

LONDON, February 14th.—Shaw Lefevre, Liberal member of the House of Commons for Reading, will, in committee, offer an amendment to the bill for the relief of the distress in Ireland, to leave out the restriction of two months as the term for which out-door relief may be given. He will also move a new clause, giving tenants the right to claim compensation for disturbance to tenure, under Gladstone's Land Act of 1870.

Yesterday, Henry Lowry Corry, James Chaine and John Mullholland, Conservative members from Ireland, waited on the Chancellor of Exchequer in relation to loans from the Treasury to railways and other public undertakings. The Chancellor promised to appoint a committee to inquire into the subject.

Arthur Creagh, Magistrate of Carrahan, County Clare, was fired at five times in his own house, through a window, but was unhurt. Creagh rushed out and fired eight shots at his assailants, without effect. There were two arrests on suspicion.

LIVERPOOL, February 14th.—The London correspondent of the *Courier* says: Assurance is given me that the statements of the intention of Baroness Burdett-Coutts to devote £500,000 to the amelioration of the distress in Ireland is true. Contradictions have been made in most of the London daily papers, but the fact is incontrovertible. This money will be invested in the purchase of land in the District of Comemara, County of Galway, to be afterwards let to small tenants in long leases and at moderate rents. A committee of Irish gentlemen interested in agriculture is associated in the scheme.

Treaty Between the United States and France Regarding Claims Resulting from the War of Secession.

LONDON, February 14th.—The substance of the treaty between the United States and France, signed at Washington on the 15th of January, for a settlement of claims of French citizens resulting from the war of secession, has been published here. The treaty provides that a commission of three members, one appointed by France, one by the United States, and the third by the Emperor of Brazil, shall meet in six months after the exchange of ratifications to arbitrate definitively on the claims of French subjects and on any counter claims of American citizens who sustained losses under like circumstances. The treaty applies solely to demands for indemnity originating from acts of injury committed with cognizance of the Federal authorities, the United States Government having absolutely refused to accept the responsibility for acts of the Confederates or for any loss arising from loss or emancipation of slaves.

Growl from a Russian Organ.

BRUSSELS, February 14th.—The Russian organ *Le Nord* says: The system of incitement of provocation in respect to Russia has never had such full play as now. In London everything seems done that is calculated to harass Russia and stir up public opinion against her, both by covert official denunciations and by sensational telegrams, the inventions of journals.

The Russian Minister Returned Home.

BERLIN, February 14th.—Sabouloff, the newly-appointed Russian Embassador here has gone to St. Petersburg to give an account of his reception.

Treaty with Hawaii.

BERLIN, February 14th.—The treaty with the Hawaiian Government has been presented to the Federal Council.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Stephen Longfellow, nephew of the poet, has jumped his bail at Boston on a charge of forgery, and sailed for South America.

Sidney P. Edgerton, one of the memorable company known as Jayhawkers, who came to California in 1849, is dead.

It is said England, France and Germany will probably recognize Roumanian independence simultaneously in a few days.

John Kemmler, who killed his three children at Holyoke, Mass., in June last, has been declared insane, and will be committed to the asylum.

Louis King, aged 32, member of the firm of Meyer, Rutherford & Co., and son of the Cashier of the National Bank of Commerce, New York, killed himself Saturday.

A courier from the Spotted Tail Indian Agency reports the savages in consternation over the ravages of small-pox. None have been known to recover. Many die in a few hours after being stricken.

The sculling match between Boyd and Hawdon, over the Tyne championship course yesterday, for £200, was won by Boyd by twelve lengths. Time, 20:52. Boyd allowed Hawdon four lengths start.

The Chicago *Times* has a page of facts and statistics about Nebraska, showing up fully its immense area, its fertility of soil, its adaptability to grazing and farming, its inducement to immigrants, and its central and commanding position between California and the East.

The brass-founders and finishers at St. Louis are on a strike, and the cabinet-makers will strike Monday for an advance of fifteen per cent. in their wages.

ECCLESIASTICAL WITS.

The Bishop of Winchester was once very neatly "sold" by one of his own clergy in the diocese of Oxford, the Rev. Frank Burgess. Mr. Burgess was an ardent fox-hunter. The Bishop, although a thorough horseman, detested sporting parsons. But Frank Burgess was not an easy man to deal with. He was independent and testy. Wilberforce tried two or three plans indirectly to let the fox-hunting parson know that he disapproved of the pastime, but, finding that these had no effect, the Bishop determined to speak for himself, and, meeting Burgess one morning in Oxford, he gently led up to the obnoxious topic. "You had a capital day yesterday, Mr. Burgess, for fox-hunting in your neighborhood." "Yes, my lord," said Burgess, "most excellent, and a capital field and a splendid run." "I suppose you do not hunt now?" said the Bishop, interrogatively. "Not much, my lord," replied Burgess, and then, recollecting the Bishop's objection, and thinking that this reply might be construed casuistical, the Vicar added, "Not so much as I should like, my lord." "No, I dare say not," said the Bishop, "but—but"—looking with that peculiar glance of his, a glance half sarcastic and half ironical—"do you think, Mr. Burgess, that your presence in the hunting field adds to your influence among your parishioners?" "I do not know whether it adds to my influence, my lord," replied Burgess; "but I do not know that it detracts from it." The Bishop thought it necessary to be frank now in his turn, and putting on a severe tone, he read the Vicar a sharp lecture upon the unprofessional character of a fox-hunter in a black coat. Burgess listened as respectfully as he could; but when the lecture was over he bowed and asked permission to make one observation. This was to point out to the Bishop that in the newspapers of a day or two before his name had appeared as one of those present at a State ball. "Ah, yes," said the Bishop, promptly, "but if you had been there you would have seen that I was never in the same room with the dancers, Mr. Burgess—never in the same room." "And that, my lord," said Burgess, with equal promptness, "is my case. I have such bad cattle that, though I ride to hounds pretty often, I am never in the same field with the hunt—never, my lord!"

And the Bishop once provoked an equally neat, if less personal, retort from a fox-hunting parson, who rode so regularly to hounds that Wilberforce lost his temper with him. "You go galloping all over the country, and your parish is going to the dogs." "That, my lord," replied the incorrigible priest, "is why I hunt. When my parishioners are going, as your lordship says, to the dogs (with a slight emphasis on dogs), it is, I submit, my lord, my positive duty to go also, if only to look after them."

But Wilberforce, as a rule, was as ready with his repartee as a man in his position must be. He once spoke to a keeper upon a neighboring estate, where he sometimes spent a quiet day shooting, about not going to church. The man pleaded guilty to the Bishop's impeachment, but added that he read his Bible on Sunday afternoons, "and, my lord," said the keeper, "I do not find there that the Apostles went shooting." "You are quite right, my man, quite right," replied the Bishop; "but it was because there was no game in the Holy Land. They went fishing instead."—[Whitehall Review.

THE WRONG SERMON.

Parson B. lived a few miles "out" on the road running from a certain elm-bowered city of Maine to a small manufacturing village just beyond. The parson was known as the embodiment of oddities and quiddities, and also as a very convenient resort when one of the city pulpits needed a "short-notice" supply, and the village of Sacarappa had a reputation, equally well established, for manners and morality for which ungodliness was a gentle term. One Sunday morning the parson was suddenly summoned to fill the "crack" pulpit of the city, its own divine being unexpectedly detained away from home. Hastily snatching a sermon from the pile, he put it in his pocket, mounted his high-hipped nag, and was off. It was a bright October morning, and the keen air had put life into the parson's veins and oratory into his soul. Warming at every sentence of his discourse, he poured forth a rising flood of rebuke, exposure, warning and condemnation such as might well stir the souls of any company of sinners to their depths. But as the climax was reached and the conclusion drew near, the parson began to recollect himself. This was no company of sinners. These were the "first circles" of P——, aristocrats in velvet and silk; their church had the tallest steeple and the handsomest front in the town, and their minister commanded a higher salary than any other church in Maine could raise. The parson felt a blush stealing to his cheek. He hurried through his sermon, closed it, and reached uncomfortably for the hymn-book; then, with a quick little movement, he wheeled about, and cocking his wizened face to one side, piped out, in his queer, high-pitched tone: "I hope no one in the audience will take offense at any remarks offered in my address this morning. I was sent for in great haste, had no time to make a selection, and the truth is, this sermon never was written to come in here; it was written for Sacarap folks."

A WHISTLING BUOY.

A new buoy has been invented by M. Perrin, of Havre, which includes the novel feature of announcing its position by means of whistling, and hence is known as the automatic whistling buoy. In shape the body is similar to the ordinary conical buoy, except that about three feet from the extreme top it is made flat. On this are fastened two small tubes, through which the air goes into the interior, and between these a tremendous whistle is fixed. Around the whole is a hand-rail, and two steps are placed, so that the summit may be reached from a boat for painting, repairing and other purposes. Besides, there is a manhole. From the bottom of the cone a large iron tube, about 30 feet long and between 6 feet and 7 feet in circumference, is attached. When in use, more especially in a heavy sea, the wind, on going down the small tubes in the top, is immediately forced out through the whistle by the perpetual bobbing up and down of the buoy. The noise, it is expected, will be so great that it will be heard for miles off from the place where it is moored, thus giving ample notice of the dangers that surround it.

Another device for making buoys conspicuous at night is by painting them with luminous paint. This paint is prepared by mixing with the ordinary materials a sulphate of lime or other phosphorescent material. On exposing the painted surface to daylight, the light of burning magnesium or of the electric arc, the light waves seem to set the molecules of the salt into a vibration which lasts for several hours. The result is that on taking the painted surface into a dark place a pale violet light is emitted. It is claimed that buoys painted in this way would be visible at night, but the idea hardly seems practicable. Lighting such buoys by compressed gas has, however, been tried with considerable success on the English coast.

THE ABUSE OF WORDS.—Among the many abuses of our language that have crept into frequent use of late there is none so offensive to good taste as the absurd misuse of the word "success." "He made a success of it," and "the performance was a success," are phrases recently in a newspaper article describing a theatrical performance. How much more elegant and correct and sensible it would have been to say "He was successful," and "the performance was successful." "He suicided," and "a message was wired," are coinages among others in frequent use that ought also to be sternly discountenanced and remorselessly stricken out by every revising pen that has the opportunity.

LAST NIGHT'S DISPATCHES

[SPECIAL TO THE RECORD-UNION.]

MATTERS AT WASHINGTON.

Formation of a National Blaine Club at the Capital.

PASSENGERS PASSING OMAHA.

Further Particulars of the Warehouse Fire at Chicago.

POSTAL CHANGES FOR THE PACIFIC COAST

A Woman Kills Her Cousin and then Commits Suicide.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS OF FOREIGN NEWS.

Opposition in Kuldja to the Surrender of that District to China.

Etc.....Etc.....Etc.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Organization of a National Blaine Club.

[Special to the RECORD-UNION.]

WASHINGTON, February 15th.—A large number of prominent gentlemen met in this city last night and organized a National Blaine Club, with Congressman Price of Iowa as President of the organization, and a long list of Vice-Presidents, including the names of Senator Booth of California, Senator Blair of New Hampshire, General S. A. Hurlbutt of Illinois, Governor McCormick of Arizona Territory, Delegate Brents of Washington Territory, James F. Wilson of Iowa, William E. Chandler of New Hampshire, Jeremiah Wilson of Indiana, J. W. Bartlett of Massachusetts, Congressman Williams of Wisconsin, Mitchell of Pennsylvania, Ketchum of New York, Browne of Indiana and Haskell of Kansas, and a number of others. Addresses were made by Congressmen Calkins of Indiana, Reed of Maine, Price of Iowa and Williams of Mississippi, and by Colonel Brown of Kentucky, strongly advocating Blaine's nomination for the Presidency, and with equal earnestness condemning the Grant third term project. The headquarters of the club were established in Washington, to remain open until after the meeting of the National Convention. The organization of this club has been hastened by the recent positive announcement put forth by close personal and political friends of General Grant, that "should the Republican Convention nominate him in the same manner as any other candidate would be nominated, he would deem it his duty to the country and to the party to accept." The meeting last night was also intended to be the initiative of a general movement on the part of Blaine's supporters throughout the country, having for its object the development and manifestation of such an amount of opposition to Grant's nomination as to deter the third term managers from presenting Grant's name to the Convention. It is proposed, in the event of Grant's friends receiving control of the New York and Illinois delegations, to call a Convention of all anti-Grant Republicans to meet in May, a few weeks in advance of the Chicago Convention and then make such a demonstration as will compel the Grant managers to withdraw from the contest, or else risk certain defeat by defections from the Republican ranks on the Presidential election. This purpose has been strengthened by the knowledge of several significant declarations made by Don Cameron to some of his friends within the past few days. He says that his purpose is to support that candidate, whoever he may be, whose chances of election seem best. As to General Grant, unless those now managing his case become convinced before the Convention proceeds to business that he can be nominated on the first ballot, his name will not be brought before the Convention at all. Further than this, unless his friends still feel sure when the Convention meets that he can be elected if nominated, his name will not be presented.

The Fire at Chicago.

CHICAGO, February 15th.—The fire in the Empire warehouse, discovered about midnight last night, had gained considerable headway before the first engine arrived on the ground, and spread so rapidly among the inflammable materials inside that the engines were powerless to do more than to prevent it breaking through the doors into the bonded warehouse adjoining, which was protected by a fire-wall. Even this last was rendered extremely difficult by the intensity of the heat, and up to 2 o'clock it was doubtful whether the bonded section would be saved. Shortly after that hour, however, the firemen prevailed, and at 3 o'clock had the fire practically under control. It continued to burn, however, until daylight, and has been smouldering all day. A revised list of losses is given below, all of them occurring in the free warehouse, which was worth $50,000. Its machinery was valued at $15,000. This building was owned by Wadsworth & Dickinson, and occupied by Wallace, Kingman & Co., seed merchants, and by the Empire Warehousing Company. Wallace, Kingman & Co. hold in storage about $152,000 worth of seed, mostly timothy. Of this the firm owned $65,000 worth, but were secured by warehouse receipts and insurance. The other owners were Colgate & Coney, $15,000; McGowan Bros., Steubenville, $40,000; Conklin & Reeler, Binghamton, N. Y., $40,000. Various Chicago firms owned the rest. Chopin & Gore had 600 barrels of different brands of choice whiskies stored. They put their loss at $125,000 to $150,000. E. P. Howell & Co., flour, $50,000; Foster, Lee & Co., flour and seed, $10,000; Sprague, Warner & Co., dried fruits, $10,000; D. P. Gibbs & Co., seed, $8,000; Phenix Distillery Company, seed, $13,000. The goods stored in the bonded house were not injured in the least. The origin of the fire is a complete mystery.

CHICAGO, February 15th.—The total value of property at risk by the Empire Warehouse fire is placed at $472,000; insurance, $174,600; salvage, $50,000 to $60,000.

Pacific Mail Steamship Company.

[Special to the RECORD-UNION.]

NEW YORK, February 15th.—The *Times* says: Officers of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company announced a few days ago that their new reduced schedule of freight rates to San Francisco would be ready yesterday. Yesterday they said they did not propose to issue any schedule, but would make private terms with shippers, giving to large customers and for long terms an advantage over those whose contracts would prove less profitable to the company. They declined to make public any figures, alleging that shippers did not desire it. They said they had entered into no contracts for as long as a year as yet, being engaged for the present in getting as favorable terms as possible for a large amount of freight offering. Thus far they had found no difficulty in filling their vessels at a comparatively small reduction. It is the opinion of many that the recent backdown of the firm spirit of defiance thrown out to the Pacific railroad companies means that there is a possibility of concluding a new working arrangement between the rival lines, and that the public will not be so greatly benefited as was at first believed.

Pacific Coast Postal Changes.

WASHINGTON, February 15th.—The following postal changes for the Pacific coast were made last week: Offices established—Buckeye, Shasta county, Cal., George W. Burtt, Postmaster; Chester, Merced county, Cal., George W. Dickenson, Postmaster; Scales, Sierra county, Cal., P. Jalley, Postmaster; Spruce Mount, Elko county, Nev., Mary Callaghan, Postmistress; Steamboat, Washoe county, Nev., John Rapp, Postmaster; Roland, Coos county, Or., William N. Warner, Postmaster; Bickleton, Klikatat county, W. T., Charles N. Bickle, Postmaster; Timpanogus, Wasatch county, Utah, William Blanchard, Postmaster; Willow Ranch, Mohave county, Arizona, Edwin Isney, Postmaster. Postmasters appointed—S. R. Wade, Caspar, Mendocino county, Cal.; Daniel Caldwell, Hamburgh Bar, Siskiyou county, Cal.; Jacob Crowninshield, New Idria, Fresno county, Cal.; Jules P. Quesnel, Saticoy, Ventura county, Cal.; Henry M. Bryant, Ellensburgh, Yakima county, W. T.; Chauncey Griffith, Tukhannon, Columbia county, W. T.; Frank Eastman, Tumwater, Thurston county, W. T.

Stabbed to the Heart.

BUFFALO, February 15th.—Two young men—Charles Stratton and Frank Morse—residing near Kennedy, Chautauqua county, quarreled to-day, and Stratton stabbed Morse in the heart, killing him instantly. The quarrel was the result of jealousy about a lady. Stratton has not yet been arrested.

A Prominent and Wealthy Citizen Shoots Himself.

MILWAUKEE, February 15th.—Cyrus Hawley, a prominent and very wealthy citizen of this city, shot himself this afternoon, while alone in his room at home. His wife, who was down stairs at the time, heard the report of the shot, and rushed up to his room, when she found her husband sitting in a chair with a revolver in his hand and blood streaming down his face from a wound in the head. Physicians were summoned at once, and the wound pronounced fatal, although at a late hour to-night Mr. Hawley was still alive. There are various rumors afloat in regard to the affair, but his family and friends claim that the shooting was purely accidental.

Westward-bound Passengers.

OMAHA, February 15th.—The following through passengers were on to-day's train, leaving at 12:15 P. M., to arrive in Sacramento February 19th: A. L. Stokes, Kansas City; P. McKeon and wife, New York; W. Fleisher, San Juan; Arthur Comstock, Walter Middleton, Utica, New York; Hamilton Disston, William H. Wright, William G. Huey, R. C. Tittermary, William E. Littleton, John S. Hill, Philadelphia; William H. Hinz and wife, San Francisco; Mrs. Lieut. Symonds and two children, Ogdensburg, New York; Miss K. Brown, San Francisco; I. F. Bigelow, New York; Mr. Lansing, wife and child, Albany, New York; T. D. Hosie, New Jersey.

Increase of Wages.

MANCHESTER (N. H.), February 15th.—The Amoskeag, Manchester and Stark corporations increase their wages, beginning March 1st, from 6 to 10 per cent.

Three Men Suffocated.

BALTIMORE, February 15th.—Three men—Chas. R. Smith, aged 55, R. A. McAuley, Jr., and a colored man named Isaac Jones—were suffocated to death yesterday on a night soil barge at Pring Gardens, just beyond the southern suburbs of the city.

Murder and Suicide.

SYRACUSE (N. Y.), February 15th.—Amelia Mantz shot her cousin, Julius Mantz, dead Saturday night, and killed herself with a second shot from the pistol. They had been living together four years under a promise of marriage. Letters from another woman found on the man indicate that the cause was jealousy.

Died of His Wound.

PORTSMOUTH (N. H.), February 15th.—Frank Dillingham, the murderer, died this forenoon from the effects of the pistol shot wound in his head, inflicted immediately after killing his aunt.

Condemned to Death.

LOGANSPORT (Ind.), February 15th.—This morning the jury in the case of Andrew Moynehan, charged with the murder of John Raymond last fall, found a verdict of guilty, and fixed the punishment as death.

UPPER SANDUSKY (O.), February 15th.—Yesterday the jury in the case of James Wilson, on trial for the murder of Washington Hill, brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree, and the Judge sentenced the prisoner to be hanged June 18th.

Death.

MACON (Ga.), February 15th.—Rev. F. M. Kennedy, editor of the *Southern Christian Advocate*, and a prominent citizen of Macon, died this morning of apoplexy, aged 47 years.

Garroted and Robbed by Women.

NEW YORK, February 15th.—Thomas F. Phillips, a retired merchant, aged 60 years, was garroted and robbed on Thompson street last night by three colored women, who were arrested.

Iron Works Partially Destroyed by Fire.

WATERBURY (Conn.), February 15th.—The Tuttle & Whittemore Co.'s malleable iron works at Union City were partially destroyed by fire this morning. The loss is estimated at $25,000; insurance, $20,000.

A $50,000 Fire.

HORNELLSVILLE (N. Y.), February 15th.—A fire to-night destroyed four brick stores, also offices and dwelling-places, between the Delevan House and City Hall. The latter was threatened. Loss, $50,000.

The Isthmus Question.

NEW YORK, February 16th.—A. M.—The *Herald's* Washington special says: There is talk among those in the Senate who are opposed to the United States taking any step likely to involve us in trouble on the Isthmus, of calling on the President for all information in regard to any vessels which may have sailed to occupy points on the Isthmus. Those who are disposed to move in this matter claim that under the circumstances and in view of the complications which this expedition may give rise, the sending of it was an exercise of war powers which do not belong to the Executive.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Advices from Mexico.

CITY OF MEXICO, February 4th (via New Orleans).—The Mormon Elder Thatcher has returned to the United States, somewhat disappointed in his mission. The Mexican Government will protect the Mormons in their worship, but not in polygamy.

The Zamacona Presidential stock is improving, notwithstanding he declined to be a candidate. The *Monitor* and *Siglo* support him. There is a large element of hope that political complications will compel Diaz to hold over.

A sensational accusation is in circulation against General Gonzales, a leading candidate for President, and at present commanding the largest force of Government troops in the Republic. He is charged with an intention to separate the States of Sonora, Sinaloa, Durango, Colima, Jalisco and Michoachan from the Mexican Union, and erect a Confederacy, to be called the Republic of Sierra Madre.

Remains Arrived.

MONTREAL, February 15th.—The remains of the late Bernard Devlin, ex-Member of Parliament, have arrived from Colorado and were lying in state in St. Lawrence Hall to-day. Twenty-five thousand persons viewed the remains.

Slightly Injured.

OTTAWA, February 15th.—Princess Louise and Mrs. Langham were slightly injured last night by being thrown from a sleigh.

Sailed for New York.

COLON, February 15th.—De Lesseps and party have sailed for New York.

Alarm Increasing.

ST. PETERSBURG, February 15th.—The *Golos* publishes a letter from Wiernoi, in which it is stated that the alarm among the Tarantches in Kuldja is increasing at the approaching surrender of the district to China. They ask to be allowed to send a deputation to St. Petersburg to remonstrate against the cession.

Guarding Against Famine.

LONDON, February 15th.—The Duchess of Marlborough, writing to the Lord Mayor of London acknowledging the receipt of £20,000, says that the committee, in order to guard against famine in Ireland next year have purchased £10,000 worth of potatoes for distribution there.

Session Closed.

VIENNA, February 15th.—The session of the Austrian and Hungarian Delegations closed to-day. Baron Von Haymerle conveyed the thanks of the Emperor to the Delegations. President Schmerling, replying in the Austrian Delegation, said that the increase of armies in several European States imperiled the welfare of the people. He hoped Austria would not follow their example. Herr Haynald, in the Hungarian Delegation, declared his confidence in the maintenance of peace.

Magnificent Reception.

ROME, February 15th.—Professor Nordenskjold arrived at Naples on the Vega yesterday, and had a magnificent reception. Salutes were fired and the shipping and city were gaily decorated with flags.

The Prussian Diet.

BERLIN, February 15th.—It is considered certain that the Prussian Diet will meet in supplementary session, and that a motion for adjourning the sittings for terms of three months will shortly be introduced.

A General Improvement.

LONDON, February 15th.—A correspondent of the *Times* at Dublin reports that the general condition of Ireland is decidedly improved. Although severe distress is still felt at many places, there is reason to believe that the whole aspect of the country is improved, and that the relief measure will prove adequate to the emergency.

Memorial Rejected.

PARIS, February 15th.—Pere Loyson's memorial to the municipality of Paris for the use of a church has been rejected.

An Advance Ordered.

LONDON, February 15th.—A dispatch from Lahore announces that orders have been sent to Candahar for the army to advance to Ghuznee early in March. General Roberts sent a native envoy to Ghuznee to confer with Mahomed Jan.

The Situation in Afghanistan.

PESHAWUR, February 15th.—In view of the expected attack on the British troops around Cabul by the end of February, preparations are being made to enable General Bright's division to move up and reinforce General Roberts.

The Southwark Election.

LONDON, February 15th.—The *Daily News* owns that the Southwark election was an unmistakable Liberal defeat. The *Times* says: The return of a Conservative from Southwark is a heavy blow for the opposition. The Government is justified in regarding the battle so keenly fought as a vote of confidence more decided and incontestable than that at Liverpool.

Cremieux's Successor.

PARIS, February 15th.—Albert Grevy is a candidate for the Life Senatorship made vacant by the death of Cremieux.

Another Vacant Seat in the British Parliament.

LONDON, February 15th.—William Hagarty O'Leary, a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland, and a Home Rule member of Parliament for Drogheda, is dead.

Treaties Between Germany, Hawaii and Madagascar.

BERLIN, February 15th.—Bismarck presented the treaty with Hawaii to the Bundsrath, and asked that body to sanction the opening negotiations for signing the treaty with Madagascar.

Professor Dead.

BERLIN, February 15th.—Francis Ferdinand Benary, Orientalist and Professor of the University of Berlin, is dead.

Great Fire at Simla—Parochial Collections.

LONDON, February 15th.—A dispatch reports a great fire at Simla, which did much damage.

The Archbishop of Paris, in a pastoral prescribing parochial collections for Ireland, dwells on Irish liberality to France during the war of 1870.

Irish Land League Meeting.

LONDON, February 15th.—The first meeting in Munster in connection with the Irish Land League was held at Newmarket yesterday. Davitt and Brennan attended. The usual resolutions were adopted. Government reporters were present.

Russia Looking for a Loan.

LONDON, February 16th—A. M.—A Berlin dispatch says that Russia has been sounding Berlin and Paris firms with a view to a heavy loan.

FACTS AND FANCIES.

An appeal to the understanding—"Wipe your feet."

More men brake in the railroad business than in any other.

A recent discovery is a telephone talked to death by a barber.

Acids and pickles are usually the contents of the family jar.

No matter how poor a man is, he can always hold up a lamp-post and whistle.

The slang expression, "the proper caper," was probably invented by a mutton-head.

Good digestion will do a great deal more to keep a man straight than good resolutions.

This is an open winter—open at both ends, with gentle zephyrs blowing clear through.

"Have another dozen, Bill?" said a drunken man; "let's get up a furor in the oyster business."

The difference between husband and wife—no, no, there never should be any difference between them.

"Mamma, what are twins made for?" Her precocious brother replied, "So that cannibals may eat philopœnas."

A witty divine, speaking of a recent journey from the West, said he spent a day in New York because it was all he had to spend there.

Twelve millions of Germans live outside the German Empire in Russia, Austria and Switzerland, using the High German language and books.

The worst case of "stage fright" is that of the man who thinks he has passed up a two dollar and a half gold piece instead of a dime to the driver.

The fellow who swore off swearing off calculates that