

CURRENT TOPICS.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

SECRETARY FOLGER refuses to receive personal bonds as security for public deposits.
REPORTS of Cabinet officers are to be withheld until the President's message has been sent to Congress.

M. H. MANNING has received the certificate of election in the Mississippi Second Congressional District.

THE 262d anniversary of the arrival of the Mayflower was celebrated at Provincetown, Mass., on the 19th.

THE Georgia Legislature elected Pope Barrow United States Senator for the short and Alfred H. Colquitt for the long term.

THE Massachusetts Senators have united in a letter to Secretary Folger, exhorting the Collector of the port of Boston for aiding in the election of Ben Butler as Governor.

APPLICATION has been made to the Attorney-General of the State of New York for the opening of proceedings to vacate the charter of the Mutual Union Telegraph Company.

PARIS cablegrams state that President Gravy is really in a very critical condition. Political circles are discussing the succession, and the names of Gambetta, Chanzy, and Bresson are mentioned.

THE English experts who examined the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad report that between \$10,000,000 and \$18,000,000 was mysteriously dropped in the work of reorganization, and recommend formal consolidation with the Erie or a complete divorce.

THE United States Marshal in Indian Territory seized a quantity of liquor belonging to army officers, as the federal statutes permit the entry of spirits only for medicinal purposes. A protest has been entered by the commander of the department, in which General Sherman and Sheridan join.

THE Chinese Minister and three members of the legation left Washington, the other day, in a special car of the Pennsylvania road, under the escort of Attorney-General Brewster, to visit the Baldwin locomotive works, the Altoona shops, the Johnstown rolling-mills, and the factories at Pittsburgh.

THE Montreal Board of Trade has resolved to memorialize the Government to assume the debt for widening the whole chain of canals, in order to meet the competition of the free waterways of New York. The Dominion will also be asked to defray the cost of deepening the St. Lawrence between Montreal and Quebec. Commercial leaders in Canada assert that the canals will be enlarged until ocean ships can reach Chicago.

THE Vermont Means Committee of the Vermont Legislature proposes to raise all money required for State expenses by taxing the corporations doing business within the State. The railroads will be asked for two per cent. on the first \$2,000 earned per mile; express and telegraph companies are to disgorge three per cent. on their gross receipts, and savings banks half of one per cent. on deposits, all of which is to be paid to the State Treasurer semi-annually.

THE Chief of the Bureau of Statistics reports that during the month of October there arrived in the Customs districts of Baltimore, Boston, Detroit, Huron, Minnesota, New Orleans, New York, Passamaquoddy, Philadelphia and San Francisco, 87,689 passengers, of whom 45,965 were immigrants, 8,867 citizens of the United States returned from abroad, and 3,357 aliens not intending to remain in the United States. Of this total number of immigrants there arrived from England and Wales, 7,659; Ireland, 3,415; Scotland, 1,055; Austria, 558; Belgium, 198; Bohemia, 481; Denmark, 996; France, 511; Germany, 17,693; Hungary, 963; Italy, 1,224; Netherlands, 263; Norway, 1,165; Russia, 205; Poland, 147; Sweden, 2,316; Switzerland, 859; Dominion of Canada, 6,446, and from all other countries, 215.

EXTRAORDINARY electric disturbances were reported from all parts of the United States and Great Britain on the 17th. Officers of the Western Union Telegraph Company in Chicago began to feel the electric storm at 4 o'clock in the morning, and it increased in intensity till 9:45, when communication from every direction was cut off. It seemed to go in successive negative and positive waves, alternately neutralizing the currents on the wires, or increasing their intensity to such a degree as to burn everything. The switchboard was set on fire a dozen times during the forenoon, and half a dozen keys of the instruments were melted by the current, which continued to pass, though the screw was turned up and the point parted to the farthest limits. The duplex and quadruple wires were rendered entirely useless, and at noon but a single wire of the fifteen between that city and New York was in operation, and it was frequently interrupted.

SPECIAL AGENT MARTIN, of the Treasury Department, has submitted his annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1882, detailing the operations of the special agency service during that period. It shows that the amount recovered on account of seizures, fines and suits was \$88,679; increased duties, \$79,448; miscellaneous, \$12,153; number of seizures, 217; appraised value, \$91,476; reduction in expenses recommended, \$18,322; number of arrests, 54; number of reports received, 2,976. Of these reports 58 relate to smuggling, 319 to undervaluation, 63 to misconduct of Customs officers, 182 to seizures, 129 to inspection of Customs districts, 15 to suits commenced, and 2,319 to miscellaneous subjects. "It is reported that the business of opium smuggling on the Pacific coast has been carried on by an organized company, which includes capitalists, Custom-house employees, steamship employees, local politicians and Chinamen. All Customs officers suspected of complicity with smugglers have been dismissed from service."

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

Mrs. STEPHEN MEYERS, of Buffalo, N. Y., stepped out on an errand, the other afternoon, leaving two children in care of her aunt, Mary Higgins. When she returned she found the woman and an infant lying on the floor in drunken stupor. A physician was summoned, but he arrived too late to save the child's life, and Mary was locked up on a charge of infanticide. The little one had been crying, and as the woman had always regarded alcohol as a general panacea, she forced a dose down its throat.

Two children of Rev. Mr. Gleason, of the Methodist Church at Windom, Minn., were drowned while skating the other day. The bodies were recovered.

The barge Signal was run down and sunk by the steamer City of Worcester in the East River, New York, on the 18th. There were on board at the time Captain Wm. Taylor, his mother, wife, and three children, and two deckhands. The captain was rescued by a tug; the others went down with the wreck.

THREE Chinamen who arrived at San Francisco the other day claimed to be merchants, but did not possess the certificates required by the restriction law. They were refused permission to land, but the Collector of the port was summoned before the United States Court, where it was decided that the Celestials had proved themselves to belong to the mercantile class, while the prohibition applied only to laborers, and they came ashore.

A COMPANY with a capital of \$750,000 has been organized in Pittsburgh, Pa., by prominent iron men, to erect works for the manufacture of nails and spikes from steel—something which has never before been done in the United States.

A DETECTIVE has been for a month following a band of thieves in the lumber regions of Elk County, Pennsylvania. A few nights ago, with an armed force, he captured thirty bandits asleep in the forest, and lodged them in jail at Driftwood. Their operations have been mainly directed against freight cars of the Allegheny Valley road.

FORTY armed men attacked the house of Magistrate Roach, at Magnos, Ireland, the other night, firing several shots and carrying away two girls.

An engine and twelve cars of the Canada Southern Road were badly wrecked at the yard in St. Thomas, Ontario, the other day, and two men were seriously injured.

An international exhibition of boilers, with machinery and appliances, called together large crowds of people from all parts of the United States and England, in Pittsburgh, Pa., last week.

REV. PETER LOCKWOOD, Presbyterian, of Binghamton, New York, who was ordained sixty-one years ago, has closed his earthly labors.

FERDINAND SCHRAEDER, who kept a hotel near Detroit, Mich., recently had an arm injured in a railroad accident, and killed himself rather than submit to an amputation, which the surgeons had pronounced necessary.

JAMES McCULLOUGH, a troublesome citizen of Holgate, Ohio, was placed in the lock-up to get sober, when he fired the structure and burned himself to a crisp.

The contest over the will of General John A. Hazard, at Newport, Rhode Island, has been settled. The widow is to receive \$80,000 in bulk or have \$5,500 per annum during her life.

GUSTAVUS GRIFFIN, M. P., is the name given by a gaunt and clerical person who has allowed the people of Montreal, Canada, to suspect that he was a capitalist. He bought out the proprietors of the Victoria Hotel, and then commenced swindling operations of great magnitude, by which he probably obtained \$30,000. He made an attempt to leave the city the other day, but was forcibly detained at the depot by the wife of a victim, and now lies in jail.

EIGHT thousand of the soldiers engaged in the Egyptian campaign were reviewed by Queen Victoria and the Duke of Cambridge the other day.

CAPTAIN HOWARD, charged with deserting his post at Pensacola, Fla., claims that he left on account of sickness before the fever broke out.

THE police at Lemberg, Germany, have seized a lot of pamphlets and explosives.

H. H. JOHNSON, a well-known broker of Boston, Mass., has been arrested for embezzling some \$4,000 entrusted to him by E. P. Pierce and Mary Collyer.

D. L. SULLIVAN, a conductor, was killed by his train at Louisville, Ky., the other morning. He leaves a widowed mother in Columbus, Ohio.

In a quarrel at Lead City, Dakota, on the 18th, Timothy Coleman killed Boyd Hicklen by a fist blow under the ear.

AMELIA KAHLER, a beautiful girl of Washington, D. C., killed herself with rat-poison on the 18th.

Mrs. MELVILLE, wife of the explorer, has been discharged from the insane asylum at Norristown, Pa., sound in mind and body.

In an unpleasantness between prominent citizens of Forest City, N. C., on the 18th, Barnes King was killed and William Suttle received injuries which will probably cause his death.

WM. H. BROOKS, car inspector of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway, was killed while crossing the track at Richmond, Va., on the 18th.

WM. H. CUNNINGHAM, a workman at the rolling-mill in Birmingham, Ala., committed suicide on the 18th by plunging head foremost into a blast furnace.

TWENTY Mexicans were killed by Indians near Carlitas, the other day, and troops have been sent to punish the marauders.

GEN. J. D. FESSENDEN, son of the late Senator Fessenden, dropped dead on the street in Portland, Me., the other morning.

A. F. WHITMORE, who keeps a faro bank in Boston, Mass., was knocked down and brutally beaten by two men the other morning and will probably die from his injuries. He had \$1,000 in his pocket, not a cent of which, nor anything else of value on his person, was touched.

FIFTY inmates of the asylum for imbeciles at Columbus, Ohio, are prostrated with scarlet fever, and the death rate is alarming.

THE total vote in Pennsylvania was 743,803, of which the Republicans polled 519,696.

THE Sioux Indians have agreed to select separate reservations for the different tribes of their nation. This will enable the opening of half the present reservation to settlement.

ROBERT LOVINGTON, aged 14, was horribly mangled by the wheels of a freight train at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the other night. He was trying to steal a ride.

THE Secretary of the Navy has issued a circular inviting the presentation to the department, by any skillful person, of plans, models and designs for any new steel steam cruising vessels for the navy.

DYPHTHERIA is epidemic in the suburbs of Philadelphia, Pa.

FREIGHT trains on the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern road were damaged by a collision at Albert Lea, Minn., on the 19th. Ed. Day, engineer, and a fireman named Green were seriously injured.

M. B. BYRNES, of Woburn, Mass., telegraphed the Secretary of the Treasury at Washington to send a United States Marshal to Boston, where he would meet him and make important disclosures. Marshal Galloupe went to the designated place and found the man restlessly awaiting his arrival. Taking the officer to the Court-house Byrnes impressively informed him that the English Government had deposited in the United States Treasury several millions of dollars to the credit of a beautiful young lady, whose photograph he had and whose name he gave. To this young lady he said he was engaged to be married. He wished the officer to assist him in gaining possession of the money. He was sent to a lunatic asylum.

TWENTY-FIVE persons, including three foreigners, have been arrested in Lyons, charged with being members of an association formed for the purpose of fomenting strikes among workmen, obtaining a general division of property, and destroying sentiments of patriotism among the French people.

A SECTION of an Indianapolis & St. Louis freight train got loose on a steep grade near Greensburg, Ind., the other morning, and all but one car, in which four tramps were stowed away, were completely wrecked by colliding with an ascending locomotive. One of the wanderers was seriously hurt; the others escaped with a few slight bruises.

THE Congregational Church at Richmond, Mass., built more than 100 years ago, burned on the 19th.

BURGLARS took \$3,000 worth of lace and gloves from the store of Jones & McCaully, in Philadelphia, the other night. On a slight clew the police bagged the offenders, and secured the deeds recently stolen from the residence of Edward McSorley, on Staten Island, N. Y. The letter identified his property, and stated that he also lost \$30,000 in bonds and \$750 in cash.

WM. ENNOR, an old and well-known citizen of Galena, Ill., who had been missing for some days, was found at the bottom of a deserted mine shaft not far from his home the other morning, greatly exhausted and about ready to die. He went into the shaft for the purpose of exploring it, but soon lost his way and was unable to get out.

FRED DIEBOLT, a rich and influential German saloon-keeper of Cleveland, Ohio, was convicted in the police court of violating the Sunday law. Judge Solters fined him \$100, and sentenced him to ten days in the workhouse.

A CASH-boy in a Boston dry-goods house, named Thomas Loeman, and his sister and brother have fallen heirs to \$2,000,000 left by an uncle in Australia.

ANDREW NUPPER, postmaster at Woodville, Ohio, has been arrested for destroying mail-matter, and has confessed his guilt.

EMMA GASSETT and Bessie Cobb were killed and a number of other young women were seriously injured by jumping from a burning building in Providence, R. I., Nov. 21. There was no fire-escape, and they had to fling themselves from an upper story onto the roof of an adjoining building, several rolling off to the pavement. George Mann, a jeweler, missed the roof and went straight down to the ground. His injuries will probably prove fatal. George Grant and an unknown man were also maimed in desperate leaps.

In New York City, the other day, Giuseppe Pelletta, accused his wife of the theft of some money and jewelry. The woman made him angry by denying the charge, and he killed her and then committed suicide.

At Louisville, Ky., on the 20th, Mrs. M. E. Eysenberz, mother of nine children, took poison to escape domestic troubles, and Mrs. Sarah Carroll, aged 80, buried her sorrows in a well.

W. WARD and W. F. Salter have been indicted by the grand jury of the District of Columbia for offering money to employees to abstract from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing the paper upon which notes are printed. The object in view, it is alleged, was to prove lawlessness in the management, and to influence Secretary Folger to remove Col. Irish, the Superintendent.

R. G. SCULTHORPE, one of the wealthiest men in Port Hope, Ontario, was crushed to death while attempting to remove an obstruction in front of his elevator the other day.

FIFTEEN hundred miners have been thrown out of work by a fire in the Short Mountain colliery, near Lykens, Pa.

CAPTAIN EMMERICH, of the German army, was shot dead in a duel with Herr Meyer, a Jew, near Wurzburg, the other day.

A PASSENGER train on the Houston & Texas Central went down an embankment near Bryan, the other night, and was completely wrecked. No one was seriously hurt. Frank Hurley, engineer on a Cincinnati & Georgetown & Ports-mouth train, was seriously injured by a similar accident near California, Ohio. A brakeman was killed and several passengers were slightly hurt by a collision on the Pacific road, near Davisville, Cal., on the same day.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR has pardoned Robert Logan, convicted of robbing a mail coach in Western Texas in 1881, and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment in the Illinois Penitentiary. The pardon was granted on account of the prisoner's youth and because he is believed to have been the tool of older men. He confessed his crime, pleaded guilty, and has since aided the Government in the prosecution and conviction of others.

MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

The Congressional Elections. The returns from seven districts show the following vote by counties:

Table with columns for County, Democrat, Republican, and Total. Includes Carroll, Chariton, Grundy, etc.

Table with columns for County, Democrat, Republican, and Total. Includes Jackson, Johnson, La Fayette, etc.

Table with columns for County, Democrat, Republican, and Total. Includes Audrain, Franklin, Lincoln, etc.

Table with columns for County, Democrat, Republican, and Total. Includes Jefferson, Washington, Iron, etc.

Table with columns for County, Democrat, Republican, and Total. Includes Barton, Dade, St. Clair, etc.

Table with columns for County, Democrat, Republican, and Total. Includes Boone, Booneville, Booneville, etc.

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SACRIFICED HIS SON.

A Mormon Father Kills His Child While Laboring Under Alleged Divine Inspiration.

Joseph B. Smith, the father who killed his boy because, he said, he had revelation from the Lord to do so, is forty years old. He came to Westminster five years ago, and since then, with his wife and family, has been picking up a meager subsistence by odd jobs. Finally the family settled down to fishing, establishing their home on a desolate island off the coast, which could only be reached by a boat. It was seldom visited except by hunters and fishermen, who hired the boat which the murdered boy had charge of. The murder was committed on the 4th inst., but was not discovered until last Thursday, when a party of hunters who called out from the shore for the boy, were told by old man Smith that the boy was dead, and that he had been inspired by the Lord to kill his child. The hunting party secured the services of a coroner, and coolly went on with their sport, only reporting the crime to the authorities that night. A constable and doctor went out next day to the scene of the crime. They drove down to the beach and shrouded to Smith, and he rowed over to them. On making the object of the visit known he gave himself up quietly. The mother and child were then brought from the island, and the entire family taken to Westminster Friday morning. Before the officers arrived the boy had been buried about thirty feet from the house.

On arrival of the prisoner and family at Westminster, an inquest was ordered, and Justice Aldridge, accompanied by Dr. James McCoy and others, Smith included, returned to the beach and rowed across to the island. Smith pointed out where the body was lying, and the father had made, a rough box which the father had made, and the body had been laid in it. The sight is described as most sickening. Decomposition had set in to such a degree as to render the moving of the body a difficult and disagreeable task. The unnatural parent looked on complacently and spoke of the murder with no feeling known, in reply to a question as to how he struck the blow, he stooped over the corpse, thrust his knife into it, and drew it out of the cavity without a sign of emotion. The weapon was an eight-inch butcher knife. Mr. McCoy carefully examined the body, but, aside from the fatal cut, found no signs of any violence. One death-dealing blow was struck just in the center of the chest, and with sufficient power to cut the breast bone and enter to the full length of the blade, making a horrible gash, eight inches deep and four inches long.

A few weeks ago Smith gave up fishing, and being asked why, replied that the Lord had commanded it, and had promised to hereafter provide for him. From that time on he has made, and has commanded his family to make no effort to gain a livelihood. The boy, however, put no faith in his father's belief, and from time to time pursued his usual life, with his own money. On the Wednesday before the murder the boy purchased and took home some sacks of flour, which angered his father, and this was found emptied upon the ground, together with some other provisions, close to the spot where the murder was committed. A few weeks ago Smith gave up fishing, and being asked why, replied that the Lord had commanded it, and had promised to hereafter provide for him. From that time on he has made, and has commanded his family to make no effort to gain a livelihood. The boy, however, put no faith in his father's belief, and from time to time pursued his usual life, with his own money. 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