The New North-West.

MILLS & KESSLER, PROPRIETORS

—The Legislature has turned its attention to seal hunting—and fur may fly.

—Won't somebody introduce a railroad bill in the Legislature—just for a change.

—The Philadelphia *Times* favors us with its Almanac, which is to Pennsylvania what the *Tribune* Almanac is to New York.

—Thurman and Bayard, Democratic Senators, and Edmunds, Morton and Frelinghuysen, Republicans, were chosen as the Senate branch of the tri-partite electoral commission.

—In the event of news of the decision of the Presidential question on a day other than that on which the NEW NORTH-WEST is issued, extras will be sent to those post-offices they would probably reach in advance of other advices.

The Legislative apportionment bill introduced by Rotwitt is on the basis submitted in the NEW NORTH-WEST of Jan. 5th, except that it cuts down the representation of Beaverhead one member of the House and adds one member to Lewis & Clarke.

—Will the *New North-West* contract to print, in its office, a pamphlet edition of 3,000 copies of Mr. Clark's Centennial Address for the sum of $200?—*Herald, 29th.*

No. But the bill contemplated the pamphlet would be printed in the East and we would contract to deliver here 3,000 copies of the Address for $200.

—The Walla Walla and Columbia River Railroad Company held its annual meeting January 8th. Its tonnage last year was 19,300 tons, against 14,000 tons estimated. The president stated his opinion that the road would not be a paying investment for the stockholders for the next five years.

—We publish on the outside a letter in the Colorado *Mining Review*, relating to Butte. While in the main a good letter we think the writer is mistaken in some of his statements, and particularly in regard to the cost of reducing ores. Mr. Davis believes he can profitably work $15 or $20 ores.

—Dunn & Co.'s circular shows 9,009 failures in the United States for the year 1876; gross liabilities $25,000,500. This is 1,350 more failures than in 1875, but the aggregate losses are much smaller. The percentage of failures was: Pacific States, 1 in every 60 business houses; in the Western States, 1 in 72; New England States, 1 in 59; Middle States, 1 in 57; Southern States 1 in 64. In Canada the failures were 1 in 32.

—While the recent low price of gold—hovering between 1.06 and 1 07—seemed to indicate that the capital of the country had no apprehension of national trouble from the situation of Presidential matters, the quotations since show that the political situation was sustaining the gold premium to some extent. The call of bonds for redemption did not materially effect the price, but since the passage and signing of the compromise measure gold has dropped to 1.05¼. Specie resumption is not far distant.

—We notice the Legislature has under consideration a new school law, to which Mr. Smith takes some exceptions in this issue. We are not sufficiently advised of the changes contemplated to discuss the bill, but these facts must impress all: We have a good school law and school system at present, and established law and system in school management should not be materially disturbed or changed except for good cause and after careful consideration convinces the Legislature that the changes will be of material benefit. There is no more critical work than tampering with school laws.

—Pursuant to notice a meeting of citizens was held at Loeber's Hall on Wednesday evening last for the purpose of dicussing the merits and demerits of the Utah Northern Extension Railroad proposition. There were several addresses made in all of which the proposition was favorably commented upon, and the unanimous sentiment of all assembled was strongly in favor of having the proposition accepted as soon as the individuals making the offer gave the proper guarantees that the contract would be fulfilled. It was also resolved to petition the Legislature asking that they have this question submitted to a vote of the people of the Territory.—*Butte Miner.*

—The *Missoulian* is opposed to the N. & S. R. R. proposition and expresses its views as follows:—"And now comes Jay Gould & Co. with their little disinterested proposition, all for the good of the people of Montana. They will build a road which will cost them $8,000 per mile if the people of Montana will put up $5,000 per mile of that amount. They want eight per cent. interest on the bonds, and three years in which to build the road. Well, under such an arrangement, the Territory will immediately become liable for $120,000 interest per annum. The proportion Missoula county will have to bear of this amount will be $7,500 per annum. This will involve an extra tax of twelve and one-half mills. Will the people of Missoula county stand it? Not by a long shot. No collector could be found with enough nerve to demand it. He would resign; the commissioners would resign so as not to appoint his successor, and elections would be allowed to go by default. We want to pay our honest debts, and will do it if we are let alone; but there is no principle of justice that will require us to pay an iniquitous railroad tax and no feeling of honor that will lead our people up to the rack to pay for that which is of no appreciable benefit to them."

—We are in receipt of Mr. Robinson's printed Bill providing for the acceptance of the Gould-Dillon proposition to build a N & S road, but substituting $1,000,000 for $1,500,000 and also substituting "Boulder City, Jefferson county," for the "point in Montana as far north as the mouth of Big Hole River," but requiring it to come by way of the mouth of the Stinkingwater river in Madison county. We presume the idea intended to be conveyed by this is that Boulder is to be the northern terminus and that Gould, Dillon & Co. are to build the road to that point for $1,000,000. But no company would ever feel itself required by the Bill to conform to that presumption. One of the important points in this legislation is to provide beyond possibility of failure that the road shall be constructed and operated to a specified northern terminus. We don't want our aid exhausted and the road incomplete. Of course Gould-Dillon will not build to Boulder for $1,000,000; and instead of amending this back to $1,500,000 it should be amended back to Pipestone less the difference in cost between the two points. Or, if it is to be extended, make an omnibus bill, run roads to Virginia, Helena, Butte and Deer Lodge at once for the two millions it will cost and and let us prosper or perish together. We notice another feature of the Bill, that it is to receive its legal vitality at the polls. It is perhaps worth inquiring if the sole power to make laws does not rest with the Legislature and the Governor, and whether all this railroad building is not going to end in nothing?

COUNTING THE VOTE.

The measure devised by the Conference Committee to count the electoral vote is now a law and the Commission with whom rests the determination of the Presidential contest has been organized. The plan is given in full in this issue and our readers have it contemporaneous with the proceedings under it. The joint convention of the House and Senate was to assemble yesterday and under the rules adopted it is possible the count will be completed by this evening or to-morrow. It relieves the country from a dread suspense, because whether Tilden or Hayes is declared elected there will be acquiesence. Had the Senate insisted on its presiding officer counting the vote and the House insisted on being a party to the count, it is not improbable there would have been serious trouble. The Conference Committee had the difficult task of devising some plan that would be constitutional, that would command the respect of the country, that would not predetermine the result by the very constitution of the determining power, and yet one that would not make the result merely a matter of chance. In all these things we now believe they have succeeded. The only question is the constitutionality of the measure, and that is held by good authority to be covered by the decisions of the committee of fifteen being referred back to the Joint Assemblage for its final determination, it requiring, however, a concurrence of the two Houses to reverse the decision of the Committee. That will not occur. This is on the theory that the House and Senate, and not the President of the Senate, count the vote, a view which many Republicans rejected and which accounts for the opposition manifested. The calling in of the five members of the Supreme Court, as law experts as it were, is stated to have abundant precedents. That it is a most respectable tribunal, and that it eliminates the question of chance, is clear. And who can say what will be its verdict? It does seem that patriotism, integrity and intelligence will govern the tribunal and that it will wisely and honestly seek to place in the Presidential chair the candidate who has been fairly elected. What more can a good citizen ask? It is certainly not the desire of any such that the candidate who has not been fairly elected should attain to the place, and it does not appear possible a plan could have been devised that will more certainly decide justly the great question. And as the Grand Council deliberates a nation stands with eager, intensified solicitude awaiting the supreme verdict.

COUNTING THE ELECTORAL VOTE.

Locking Horns on the Vote of Florida.

Voluminous telegrams last evening gave the details of the assembly of Congress and counting the votes. We necessarily condense to merest outline.

The count began with Alabamb; vote counted and proclaimed without objection. The same formality occurred until Florida was reached as follows:

Tilden and Hendricks: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware.

Hayes and Wheeler: Colorado.

When Florida was reached the Clerk oponed the first certificate which was for Hayes and Wheeler; the second for Tilden and Hendricks, the former being authenticated by Stearns, the latter by Cocke, and a third for Tilden and Hendricks, was presented, received January 30, authenticated by Drew.

On the President asking if there were any objections to counting the vote of Florida, Field, Cooper, Jones, Jenks, Springer and others sent up a written objection to the first certificate. Their objections were referred to the Electoral Committee and the Senate returned to its chamber.

—Judge Mackey has decided that Wade Hampton is the legal Governor of South Carolina.

ABOUT THE ELECTORAL COUNT.

Bill Passed and Signed and Justices Selected.

WASHINGTON, January 26.—The Electoral Compromise Bill passed the House without amendment, at 5:30 this p. m., by a vote of 191 yeas to 86 nays. The Speaker voted aye.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The Republican caucus has chosen Garfield and Hoar as representatives of the party on the House branch of the tripartite Electoral Commission. McCrary declined the nomination. Hoar had 42 votes to 40 for Hale. Garfield was the unanimous choice.

NEW YORK, Jan. 28.—The *Times'* Washington special says:—The Republicans have secured the services of Evarts and Stanley Matthews, and will probably have another as counsel before the Electoral Commission. The Democrats will have Jerry Black, Carpenter, of Wisconsin, and Richard T. Merrick, of Washington.

WASHINGTON, January 30.—Associate Justices Clifford, Strong, Miller and Field, designated by the Electoral Bill as four members of the judicial branch of the Commission were in secret conference two or three hours to-day, but adjourned without arriving at any determination as to which one of their associates should be selected fifth member.

CHICAGO, January 30.—The *Tribune's* Washington special says:—"Judge Davis' friends intimate he was the choice of the Justices' to-day, but declined. Swayne made it impossible for them to select him by temporarily leaving the city. Bradley has in his circuit Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi Louisiana and Texas and has studied the politics of these States carefully. He wrote the decision in the Grant Parish cases in which certain sections of the force bill were first declared unconstitutional."

HARTFORD, Jan. 30.—The House to-day, on motion of a Democratic member, adopted unanimously a resolution tendering the thanks of the General Assembly to the President for his approval of the Electoral Bill and cordially endorsing his message.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—SENATE.—The President *pro tem* presented a communication from Justices Clifford, Strong, Miller and Field announcing they yesterday, in pursuance of the Electoral Count Bill, selected Justice Jas. P. Bradley as the 5th member. A concurrent resolution was adopted providing that nobody shall be admitted to the South Wing of the Capitol during the electoral count, except persons holding tickets issued by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House, to be distributed equally to Senators and Representatives.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—HOUSE.—The Speaker presented a notification by the Associate Justices of the choice of Bradley as 5th member of the Commission. The Senate resolution for special police at the Capitol during the electoral count was agreed to.

The Commission's Counsel.

NEW YORK, January 28.—The *Times'* Washington special says the Republicans have secured the services of Evarts and Stanley Matthews, and will probably have another, as counsel before the electoral commission; the Democrats will have Jerry Black, Carpenter, of Wisconsin, and Richard T. Merrick, of Washington.

MONTANA LEGISLATURE.

THE TENTH SESSION—BEGINNING JANUARY 8, 1877.

Special Report to the New North West.

Nineteenth Day—Friday, January 29th.

RAILROADS BY COMPRESSED AIR—INSANE AND GAME LAWS PASS THE HOUSE—SECURING EGRESS FROM PUBLIC BUILDINGS—THE SCHOOL BILL—MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS REGARDING TERRITORIAL OFFICERS.

The House has been playing making railroads. After getting the road to Helena for a million dollars subsidy, they have set it back, and now the northern terminus is at the town of Boulder. In this shape the bill has been ordered engrossed for printing. I hope they will get the road but they will not, as no company will accept the terms. Whether they might not better dispense with the question, and devote their time to other needed legislation, may be seen in the dim but not distant future.

Among other notices of bills to be introduced, is one by Witter, of Beaverhead, for a grant of land in favor of public schools.

Mr. Speaker gave notice that he had signed C. J. R. No. 1, C. B. No. 4 and C. B. No. 7.

In considering Robinson's railroad bill, No. 31, Sanders, of Lewis and Clarke, wished to introduce an amendment to change the amount of subsidy from one million dollars to the original amount, $1,500,000, and the author of the bill objecting was obliged to modify his motion to $1,499,999. The motion was lost. Amendments were proposed to reduce to $500,000, and one to less. Sanders, of Lewis and Clarke, said that if the Legislature wished to meet the desires of the people by passing some reasonable bill such as the Territory could afford and such as would be likely to be accepted by some company, they ought to do it or drop the subject. I concur.

The bill to amend the Helena incorporation act was referred to Sanders, Davis, Kessler and Chadwick.

Council passed unanimously to-day bill regarding minors being allowed to gamble and forbidding same in public places.

Council also passed the bill for the benefit of the insane—H. B. 2.

Also the game law, C. B. 23, which simply changes the present law in time of prohibition from March 1st to August 1st, laying a fine of $50 to $250 each to kill grouse, prairie chickens, pheasants, fool hens, partridges or quail within the prescribed time nor at any time to kill any of above on speculation or for purposes of sale under penalty of from $50 to $100. Law to have effect from passage.

Also passed the bill regarding fire accidents, C. B. 30, to compel the owners of public buildings to be erected to have the doors open outwardly, and all buildings now constructed shall within 90 days after the passage of this act be so altered as to comply with its provisions. Penalty for non-compliance, $100 to $500 fine and the buildings to be closed by the court until the doors thereof shall be made to comply with the provisions of this act. To take effect from passage.

Council in executive session confirmed the nominations as notaries public of Massena Bullard and Ed. B. Bonnell, of Lewis and Clarke County, and Joseph Fenlon, of Big Horn county.

The bill to support common schools requires that the districts are to be the same as Judicial districts, making three instead of nine as now, and the money from the general fund appropriated for each district shall be apportioned to the proportion of such. Number of months of holding schools left with the authorities having charge. The Council has been in committee of the whole all the forenoon on this bill and have got more to do.

Council J. M. No. 3, asking for the privilege of electing Territorial officers, urges that while it was necessary to afford protection half a century ago to a few hundred citizens that the system now fails to meet the wants of the large masses of intelligent people who are developing the great resources of the country and is at variance with the principles of self-government; that the present system is of monarchial and not republican character; also that rules are sent from distant lands; that the delegate in Congress is simply a beggar asking favors, and finally petition for an equality of political privileges granted citizens in the States. The foregoing is about the amount of a long document. Ordered printed.

The House has been the entire afternoon on the bill for building a hospital, and it is no use to trouble you with amendments lost and passed, as the morrow may wipe them out.

Up to thisevening three unimportant bills have reached the Governor, *viz.*, to allow county commissioners to reject all bids, C. J. R 1, and one referring to commissioners of deeds.

Twentieth Day—Saturday, January 27th.

TERRITORIAL LIBRARY — MEMORIALIZING THAT THE ASSAY OFFICE BE MADE A MINT—LIQUORS NOT TO BE SOLD TO MINORS.

The bill to provide for the Territorial Library simply changes the status in making the Governor one of the committee instead of Secretary, and requires the clerk of the Supreme Court to act as Librarian at $400 per year.

House J. M. No. 2 praying that the Assay office may be converted into a branch mint for the coinage of gold and silver, represents that Montana stands next in rank to the State of Nevada in the value of her yields, and that enough is now known of the silver belt of Montana to show that it is the most valuable in the world, while commerce with commercial centres is debarred by our remoteness, and discourages our citizens from investing; that the gold and silver yield of the Territory of Montana for the past twelve years amounts to $14,422,000, that the value of her mines is lessened by exhaustive rates of transportation which precludes from foreign markets her vast deposits of low grade ores, and that her mines of higher grade are worked at a still greater disadvantage from heavy freight tariffs imposed on their silver bullion, and believing that the burdens would be lightened and the interests of the general government be promoted by the conversion of the U. S. Assay office in Helena into a branch mint for the coinage of gold and silver, and prays that such may be granted.

C. B. 28, in regard to minors gambling in public places, was amended in the House on motion of Sanders of Lewis and Clarke, by attaching an additional condition that no saloon-keeper should sell a minor—under 21—intoxicating liquors. Amendment carried unanimously. Penalty, $50 to $500. Referred to judiciary committee.

The bill H. J. M. 2, in reference to assay office, was advised to be passed by commitee on mines and minerals.

Both Houses adjourned at the close of the forenoon session until Monday, January 29, at 10 a. m. in respect to the memory of J. F. Forbis, deceased, formerly a member of the House.

Twenty-Second Day—Monday, Jan. 29.

N. P. TELEGRAM—THE H. & B. BILL PASSES THE HOUSE—MITCHELL BILL CONSIDERED—CUSTER RIVER.

The following communication was received and read:

NEW YORK, January 27, 1877.

To the President of the Council and Speaker of the House of Representatives:

We hear that a bill is before you to grant a subsidy of five thousand dollars per mile for a standard gauge road, from the head of navigation on the Yellowstone three hundred miles westward. Should it pass in a reasonable and practicable form, the Northern Pacific will do all in its power towards the immediate construction of that section of the road,

GEORGE STARK, Vice-President.

This communication is so indefinite that I hardly think it will have any influence upon the action of the Legislature.

In the Council Dr. Mitchell made question by resolution as to the authority of the Secretary to pay members for time of absence on leave.

The Helena and Benton R. R. Bill passed the House with five dissenting votes—Batchelder, Galen, Sanders of Jefferson, Robbins and Vivian.

House has passed a bill regulating biennial elections, not differing much from the present law, H. B. 81, also H. B. 21, relating to marks and brands; also C. B. 9, to compel owners of ditches to keep same in repair; also C. B. 11, to employ stenographers to take the reports of the Supreme Court at a salary not exceeding $8 per day.

The President of the Council reported he had signed H. B. 3. Council Bills 8 and 11 were ordered enrolled, so the Governor's approval is all that is needed. The Benton Railroad Bill has been referred to a committee of one from each county.

H. B. 2, to pay for keeping the insane, has been presented to the Governor. Hays introduced his bill to interdinct the sale of intoxicating liquors on the Sabbath. The Committee to whom it was referred (Education) made a minority and majority report, minority affainst its passage—signed Constans and McAdow. The motion to adopt the minority report was lost by 7 to 6 and the majority report in favor of the bill was adopted and the matter was referred to Committee of the whole.

Council occupied nearly all of the time in committee of the whole this afternoon, Jan 30, on the bill for a North and South railroad introduced by Dr. Mitchell. Not perfected yet and the committee will sit again to-morrow.

Council confirmed nomination as notaries public of Wm. Stevens, of Missoula, Chas. W. Turner, of Beaverhead, and John R. Quigley, of Deer Lodge county.

H. J. M. No. 1, was introduced by Rotwitt from committee on Indian Affairs.

WHEREAS, in the death of Colonel George A. Custer, who fell at the head of his column, the army of the United States lost one of its most valiant and dashing officers; and, whereas we have a due appreciation of the courage and valor displayed by the illustrious Colonel and his command while defending our borders against the incursions of remorseless savages; and, whereas, we cannot show our admiration for the gallant Colonel and command more appropriately than by identifying his name with the river on whose banks himself and command met their tragic fate, therefore be it

Resolved, That, in commemoration of the dauntless courage, the disciplined valor and the heroic death of Col. George A. Custer and his men, of the Seventh Regiment of the United States Cavalry, who fell with him in the battle with the Sioux Indians on the Little Big Horn River, in the Territory of Montana, on the 25th day of June A. D. 1876, the name of said Little Big Horn shall be changed to Custer's River, and the same shall forever hereafter be known as Custer's River.

Read first and second times, and on motion of W. F. Sanders, the rules were suspended and the resolution read a third time and the clerk directed to call the roll and the members rise to their feet when voting. The resolution was then passed unanimously.

The House has at last agreed upon the points of Mr. Chadwick's bill for building an insane asylum— title changed from Hospital to Asylum on motion of Sanders—and the bill is ordered engrossed for third reading. The main features of the bill remain. They are good.

House Bill 22, to encourage woolen factories, has been amended so as to exempt from taxation all property connected with such factories for six years instead of five as in the original bill to the first two factories that shall apply for the benefit of the provisions of this act. Bill ordered engrossed for 3rd reading.

H. B. 25, relating to fees of County Treasurers, lost.

House Bill 23, for publishing reports of Supreme Court, passed; also passed the act concerning Montana's exhibit at the Centennial.

[By Telegraph to the New North West.]

Twenty-Fourth Day—Wednesday, Jan. 31st.

CONSOLIDATING COUNTY OFFICES—CONSIDERING THE RAILROAD QUESTION.

H B 36, the bill to consolidate offices in Meagher county, was the subject or an exciting debate in the House this afternoon on its introduction from the select committee in regard to embracing the county of Lewis and Clarke in its provisions. Amendments were adopted embracing the counties of Meagher, Jefferson, Beaverhead, Missoula, and Lewis and Clarke. Chadwick moved to consider the bill by separate counties. A sharp debate followed participated in by several members—Word, cool, Sanders sarcastic and bitter and something more, Chadwick a little hot, Speaker smiling. The motion was reconsidered by which the amendments were adopted and another bill made special order 10.30 to-morrow

H B 14, the bill reapportioning the legislature was considered in committee of the whole and its passage recommended by the House

J M No 1, in relation to restoring a portion of the Crow reservation, was unanimously passed

Ford introduced a resolution that the Council will not consider any bill granting railroad subsidies outside of the boundary line of the Territory; no action taken.

The Mitchell Railroad Bill, C B 18 has been before the Council nearly all afternoon and was finally referred to a select committee.

Council to-day passed bill in regard to the disposition of the exhibit of Montana at the National Exhibition—H B 23 - without amendment.

Council passed the bill changing the name of Little Big Horn River to Custer's River; also passed H B 13 C J M 4 and C B 25.

In the House Word presented a petition from citizens of Madison county, against the sale of intoxicating liquors on Sunday.

A bill, H B 44, has been introduced imposing a license on commercial agents from abroad. As amended it requires $10 per quarter as a Territorial license.

McElroy has introduced a bill exempting from attachment wages of employees.

Twenty-Fifth Day—Thursday, February 1st.

DEARBORN COUNTY—CARE OF INSANE—HUNTING A COUNTERFEIT SEAL.—THE CONSOLIDATION BILL.

A petition was presented in the House by the citizens of Lewis and Clarke for the new county of Dearborn; also one in opposition.

A communication was received from the Governor with an accompanying proposition from Sister Josephine to take care of the insane at the rate of $9 per week until such time as other provision can be made. The offer includes medical treatment, clothing, care and support, and all necessities.

McElroy introduced a resolution that the judiciary committee of the two Houses be a joint committee to send for persons and papers to ascertain if there be a counterfeit seal of the Territory, and any impression of the same affixed to any paper from any office, and who has the custody of the lawful seal and of the counterfeit, and what course to pursue to destroy the counterfeit. Resolution adopted.

The special committee on the bill for consolidation county offices of Meagher county, reported a substitute embracing all the counties. Sharp discussion and the House adjourned after Mr. Bundy had photographed the body in session.

Council passed and sent to the House C C R 6 providing the President of the Council and Speaker of the House be constituted a joint committee to confer with different companies on railroad affairs.

Council passed H J M No 1 also House bills 18, 21 and 23.

The afternoon session was devoted in the Council to C B 17, regarding the qualification of jurors, making a juror eligible though he had expressed an opinion on the merits of any case provided he had not formed his opinion by conversation with witnesses, was recommended by committee of the whole to pass.

The Sunday law has been before the Council nearly all afternoon with no decisive action.

The House has been debating all afternoon H B 49, reported as a substitute with a recommendation in lieu of H B 25, to consolidate county offices. The substitute makes the application general, and was lost.

The Governor has signed C B 9, to compel ditches and mill dams to be kept in repair and safety. This makes four bills in all.

Following is the vote in the Council yesterday afternoon on Ford's resolution providing no subsidy shall be paid for building any railroad outside the Territory. Ayes—Constans, Ford, Hayes, McAdow, and Mr. President—5. Nogs—Allebaugh, Brown, Cullen, Lewis, Mitchell, Talem, Waterbury, Watson—8.

The President's Views

WASHINGTON, January 29.—The President in a message approving the electoral count bill gives assurance that the result of the election will be accepted without resistance from the supporters of the disappointed candidate and that the highest officer should not hold his place with a question of title of right. The message also alludes to the imminent peril the country has escaped through the adoption of the act.

The document further declares that in no instance had the President of the Senate exercised the power of deciding disputed election returns. In such a case as this where the result is involved in doubt it is the duty of the law making power to provide in advance a lawful mode of settling the difficulty. No party of citizens loving their country can sacrifice too much in preserving their country. True liberty and progression only exist through a cheerful obedience to Constitutional law. The bill is calculated to meet the present question. The country requires peace and harmony between all sections.

Mexican Affairs.

WASHINGTON, January 28.—There is a growing apprehension here that the unfortunate condition of affairs in Mexico may result in complications which will seriously involve the United States. The statement telegraphed from San Francisco in support of the pretensions of the revolutionary leader, ex-Chief Justice Iglesias, that the Constitution of Mexico prohibits the election of a President for a 2d term, is shown by direct reference to a copy of the Constitution to be incorrect.

Alex. H. Stephens.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Alexander H. Stephens is dying of pelvic neuralgia. He suffers great pain which is only partially relieved by subcutaneous injections. His mind remains clear.

LATER—At 2:45 p. m. there seemed to be an improvement in the condition of Representative Stephens.

The Mitchell Railroad Bill.

As the above bill, C. B. 18, will probably be materially amended, we give below only a synopsis of its general provisions.

Sec. 1. Aid in bonds to amount of $4,000 per mile to a railroad from Franklin or any point of connection with the U. P. or C. P. roads between the mouth of Echo Cañon and Promontory Point, to a point in Montana: Entire amount not to exceed $1,500,000.

Sec. 2. To run over the nearest and most practicable route, via mouth of Big Hole to mouth of White Tail Deer creek; to be well built, equipped, and trains to pass between the termini within three years from the date of contract.

Sec. 3. Ten-twenty bonds, 7 per cent. interest, payable annually in New York; to date from issuance and delivery.

Sec. 4. Auditor to procure $1,000 bonds.

Sec. 5 Three Railroad Commissioners, to be appointed by Governor and confirmed by Council; to be *bona fide* citizens of personal integrity and business capacity and one to be learned in the law; subject to suspension for crookedness.

Sec. 6. Members of Board under oath and penalty to have no part in any subsidy or contracts for said road.

Sec. 7. Commissioners to contract for the construction of the road; a majority to rule.

Sec. 8. Commissioners to have $8 per day and actual expenses for time sworn to while actually engaged in their duties; $5,000 appropriated to pay them.

Sec. 9. Company to be paid by twenty mile sections when constructed, equipped and accepted.

Sec. 10. Territory to take first mortgage bonds back in equal amount, as forfeiture if contract is violated.

Sec. 11. Provides for method of issuin bonds.

Sec. 12 Reserves the right to tax the property of the company, devotes the taxes to paying the interest, etc., and provides for special levy of tax to pay principal and interest.

Sec. 13 Declares the right of the Legislature to regulate fares and freights.

THURSDAY'S DISPATCHES.

TOPEKA Jan. 31.—On the 16th ballot for U. S. Senator Plumb was elected.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—HOUSE.—The majority resolution declaring Bedford entitled to a seat was adopted and he was sworn in. Knott offered a resolution discharging Barnes, adopted. Speaker presented the resignation of Representative Hochford.

SENATE.—Hereford, elected from W. Va. took the oath of office.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—Speaker Randall having decided to appoint two Democratic tellers to count the electoral votes, President Ferry will appoint two Republicans. Ferry desired one of each party to be appointed but Randall demurred.

The *Tribune's* Washington special says the most exciting scene of the session occurred in the evening session of the House when the Republicans were persistently snubbed by Randall, whose rulings were palpably partizan and unparliamentary.

Senatorial.

ATLANTA, (Ga.) January 26.—Hill is elected U. S. Senator.

WHEELING, (W. Va.) January 26.—H. D. Davis was elected Senator for the long term by 60 to 27, and F. Hereford for the short term by 70 to 17.

TRENTON, January 23.—John R. McPherson was to-day chosen United States Senator by one vote over Frelinghuysen, the present Senator.

Movement of Troops.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—It was reported to-night that a number of the troops that have been stationed here for some time, will be ordered to stations in other portions of the country; some of them to Ft. Monroe and Governor's Island; and others to points in the West, where their services may be in demand in the spring campaign against the Indians.

Montana.

As a gold producing country Montana stands next in order to California, and although the production has fallen off of late years on account of mines being worked out, new discoveries are being made and new ground is opened. Some of its mountainous country is yet imperfectly prospected, such as the southeastern portions on the tributaries of the Big Horn, Powder and Tongue rivers. In all there are said to be about five hundred gold-bearing gulches in Montana, varying from half a mile to twenty miles in length, and in nearly all of them gold mining is carried on during six or seven months in the year. The length of ditches bringing water to the mines will aggregate six hundred miles. There are twenty mills in Lewis & Clark county. At Silver Star, Summit, Meadow Creek and Sterling, in Madison county, Radersburg and Crow Creek, in Jefferson, and several others mills are at work on quartz with variable results. It is only of late that much attention has been turned to silver mining in Montana, but now several mills and furnaces are at work on ore. There is a rich belt of argentiferous lodes in Ten Mile, Prickly Pear and Boulder Creek. This same belt has an outcrop at at Butte, Deer Lodge county, and still further at Vipond and Bryant districts, in Beaverhead county. There are several mills at Butte, and the lixiviation process has also been recently introduced. The Territory is inadequately supplied with reduction works and large quantities of ore are shipped away. A large amount of copper is also mined and the ore shipped to Baltimore. Our correspondent, who is now traveling in the Territory, has in late numbers given a series of interesting letters on Montana mining matters which give more details than we are able to refer to here. The great need of the Territory is capital, for they have plenty of good mines scattered over a large area. They need men of means to start them up, however, which cannot be done by mere working miners.—*Mining and Scientific Press, Jan. 20, 1877.*

Territorial Fair Premiums.

The Fair Association offers a purse of $1,000 each for two running races. On Tuesday, September 25th, for the best two in three, weight to age, $800 to first horse, $200 to second. On Saturday, September 29th, running race, three in five, free to all, weight to age, for a purse of $1,000; $800 to first horse, and $200 to second. The Fair will commence on Monday, September 24th, and continue six days. A very large amount of special premiums will be given this year, and every inducement offered to exhibitors to secure competition and insure a large attendance. The friends of the Association throughout the Territory will be pleased to learn that its financial condition never was on so good a footing as at present.—*Independent.*

The boy Hargrave is getting along nicely under the treatment of Dr. Yager, and it is now confidently hoped that he will recover without amputating any of his limbs.—*Madisonian.*

COUNTING THE ELECTORAL VOTE.

When, Where and by Whom the Vexed Question is to be Decided.

Substance of the Act as Passed and Approved.

A bill to provide for and regulate the counting of votes for President and Vice-President and decisions of questions arising thereon, for the term commencing March 4, 1877.

Be it enacted, etc.—That the Senate and House of Representatives shall meet in the Hall of the House of Representatives at the hour of 1 o'clock, post meridian, on the first Thursday in February, 1877, and the President of the Senate shall preside.

Two tellers shall be previously appointed on the part of the Senate and two on the part of the House of Representatives, to whom shall be handed as they are opened by the President of the Senate, all certificates and papers purporting to be certificates of the electoral vote, which certificates and papers shall be opened and acted upon in alphabetical order of the States, beginning with A, and the said tellers having then read the same in the presence and hearing of the two Houses shall make a list of the votes as they shall appear from said certificates, and the votes having been ascertained and counted, as in this act provided, the result of the same shall be delivered to the President of the Senate, who shall thereupon announce the state of the vote and the names of the persons, if any elected, which announcement shall be deemed a sufficient declaration of the persons elected President and Vice-President of the United States, and together with a list of the votes, be entered on the journals of the two houses.

Upon such reading of any such certificate or paper, when there shall be only one return from a State, the President of the Senate shall call for objections if any. Every objection shall be made in writing, and shall state clearly and concisely and without argument the ground thereof, and shall be signed by at least one Senator and one member of the House of Representatives before the same shall be received. When all objections so made to any vote or paper from a State shall have been received and read, the Senate shall thereupon withdraw, and such objections shall be submitted to the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall in like manner submit such objections to the House of Representatives for its decision. And no electoral vote or votes from any State from which but one return has been received shall be objected to except by the affirmative vote of the two Houses. When the two Houses have voted they shall immediately again meet, and the presiding officers shall then announce the decision of the question submitted.

That if more than one return or paper purporting to be a return from a State shall have been received by the President of the Senate purporting to be certificates of the electoral votes given at the last preceding election for President and Vice-President in such State, unless they shall be duplicates of the same return, all such returns and papers shall be opened by him in the presence of the two Houses.

When met as aforesaid and read by the tellers, all such returns and papers shall thereupon be submitted to the judgment and decision as to which is the true and lawful electoral vote of such State of a commission constituted as follows:

During the session of such House on the Tuesday next preceding the first Thursday in February, 1877, each House shall, by *viva voce* vote, appoint five of its members, who, with five Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, to be ascertained as hereinafter provided, shall constitute a commission for the decision of all questions upon or in respect of such double returns named in this section, on the Tuesday preceding the first Thursday in February, or as soon thereafter as may be. The Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States now assigned to the First, Third, Eighth and Ninth Circuits, shall select in such manner as a majority of them may deem fit, another Associate Justice of said court, which five persons shall be members of said commission, and the person longest in commission of said five Justices shall be President of said commission. The members of such commission shall respectively take and subscribe the following oath:

"I, ——, do solemnly swear, (or affirm, as the case may be,) that I will impartially examine and consider all questions submitted to the commission of which I am a member, and a true judgment give thereon agreeable to the constitution and the laws, So help me God."

Which oath shall be filed with the Secretary of the Senate. When the commission shall have been thus organized, it shall not be in the power of either House to dissolve the same or to withdraw any of its members, but if any such Senator member shall die, or become physically unable to perform the duties required by this act, the fact shall be by said commission, before it shall proceed further, communicated to the Senate or House of Representatives, as the case may be, which body shall immediately and without debate, proceed by *viva voce* vote to fill the place so vacated, and the person so appointed shall take and subscribe the oath heinbefore prescribed and become a member of said commission. And in like manner if any one of the Justices of the Supreme Court shall die or become physically incapable of performing the duties required by this act the other of said Justices, members of said commission, shall immediately appoint another Justice of said court a member of said commission, and in such appointment regard shall be had to the impartiality and freedom from bias sought by the original appointments to said commission, who shall thereupon immediately take and subscribe the oath hereinbefore prescribed, and become a member of said commission to fill the vacancy so occasioned.

All certificates and papers purporting to be certificates of the electoral votes of each States shall be opened in the alphabetical order of the States as provided in section one of this act, and when there shall be more than one certificate or paper as the certifiates and papers from such State, it shall be opened, excepting duplicates of the same return. They shall be read by tellers and thereupon the President of the Senato shall call for objections, if any. Every objection shall be made in writing, and shall state clearly and concisely, and without argument the ground thereof, and shall be signed by at least one Senator and one member of the House of Representatives before the rame shall be received. When all objections so made to any vote, or certificate, or paper from a State shall have been received and read, the vote, certificate paper so objected to, and all papers accompanying the same, together with such objections, shall be submitted to such commission, which shall proceed to consider the same, with the same powers, if any, now possessed by the two Houses, acting separately or together, and by a majority of the votes decide whether any and what votes from such State are provided for by the constitution of the United States, and how many and what persons were duly appointed electors in such, and may therein take into view such petitions, depositions, and other papers, if any, as shall by the constitution and now existing law be competent and pertinent in such consideration, which decision shall be made in writing, stating briefly the ground thereof, and signed by the members of said commission agreeing thereto, whereupon the Houses shall again meet, and such decision shall be read and entered into the journals of each House, and the counting of the vote shall proceed in conformity therewith; unless, upon objection made thereto in writing by at least five Senators and five members of the House of Representatiifes, then the two Houses shall separately concur in ordering otherwise, in which case such concurrent order shall govern.

No votes from any other State shall be acted upon until the objections previously made to the votes or papers of any State shall have been finally disposed of.

While the two Houses shall be in meeting as provided by this act, no debate shall be allowed, and no question shall be put by the presiding officer, except to either House on a motion to withdraw, and he shall have power to preserve order.

That when the two Houses separate to decide upon an objection that may have been made to the counting of any electoral vote, or votes from any State, or upon an objection to the report of said commission or other question arising under this act, each Senator and Representative may speak upon such objection or question ten minutes and not oftener than once, but after such debate shall have lasted two hours it shall be the duty of each House to put the question without further debate.

That at such joint meeting of the two Houses, seats shall be provided for the President of the Senate, the Speaker's chair for Speaker immediately upon his left, the Senators in the body of the hall on the right of their presiding officer, for the Representatives in the body of the hall not provided for the Senators, for the tellers, Secretary of the Senate, Clerk of the House of Representatives, at the Clerk's desk, and for the officers of the two Houses in front of the Clerk's desk, on each side of the Speaker's platform. Such joint meeting shall not be dissolved until the count of the electoral vote shall have been completed and the result declared, and no recess shall be taken unless a question shall have arisen in regard to the counting of any such votes, or otherwise, under this act, in which case it shall be competent for either House acting separately, in the manner heremibefore provided, to direct a recess of such house, not beyond next day, Sunday excepted, at the hour of 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and while any question is being considered by said commission, either House may proceed with its legislative or other business.

That nothing in this act shall be held to impair or effect any right now existing under the constitution and laws to question by proceedings in the judicial courts of the United States the right or title of the person who shall be declared elected, or who shall claim to be the President or Vice-President of the United States, if any such right exists.

That said commission shall make its own rules, keep a record of its proceedings, and shall have power to employ such persons as may be necessary for the transaction of its business and the execution of its powers.

Objections to the McAdow School Bill.

It abolishes the offices of Territorial and and County Superintendents, and establishes three district superintendencies, the triumvirate to be styled a Board of Education, but with vaguely defined duties. It contains no provision concerning text books, not even stipulating against frequent