

The death of Thurloe Weed, has again brought out a full discussion of Morgan's disappearance, with the general verdict that it is as much a mystery as ever.

The ordinance introduced in the German Parliament against the importation of American pork covers all branches of hog product, and will probably become a law. The pork and bacon shipments from the United States to Germany last year were 131,133,300 pounds.

The president especially favors an immediate and extensive reduction in taxation, both in tariffs on foreign imports and home productions. Congress will require a good deal of prodding from the public, as the session progresses, to keep the members up to the reform spirit.

Beecher is not afraid of immigration. In his Thanksgiving sermon recently on the vast immigration he said: "The world is feeding us with population, and the stomach is ours, and we can digest it; so let them come from all places. Come to us; we have land enough, sky enough, and institutions for just such people that have left their homes for better ones."

It now seems probable that the railroad construction for the year will exceed 12,000 miles. The total mileage of the country January 1, 1883, will be 116,000, a gain of more than 22 per cent on the mileage of two years ago. The amount of construction in 1883 will not be likely to equal that of 1882, on account of a greater stringency in the money market. Over two hundred millions have been buried this year in construction.

Florida, a few years ago, hardly known as a resort for invalids, is now being griddoned by railroads in every quarter, canals are being cut, huge warehouses for the packing of oranges are being built, immense tracts of fine sugar lands are being opened, lumbermen from Canada, Wisconsin and Michigan are going in and erecting saw mills, the cultivation of pine is being prosecuted on the Gulf coast; the utilization of the fish of the coasts has begun; towns like Gainesville, Jacksonville and Palatka are building up into cities, and in the interior thriving towns are springing up as by magic.

The insurance companies have had a bad year and some of them propose to wind up unless the tide turns in their favor. The capital of an insurance company is ordinarily invested in marketable securities; hence, when the owners find it discover that the business is no longer profitable, and a continuance in it promises to result in a loss rather than a gain to them, they can readily shift their load of responsibility to some other company, by getting their outstanding risks reinsured. It is this easy inflow and exit of capital which render it practically impossible that insurance rates can be maintained at an unduly high point. It is generally conceded that the expenses of companies in the way of costly buildings, high salaries, cost of solicitation, etc., are too large.

The Sunday laws of New York have lately occasioned a good deal of feeling. Their incorporation into the new penal code was the first intimation to many people that such laws were in existence, because they were seldom regarded or enforced. The most stringent were enacted half and even three-quarters of a century ago, when the idea had not been entirely abandoned that the state must enforce religious duties. The codifiers were not at liberty to change the laws, and hence the trouble. Those inapplicable to present time will doubtless remain, as they have for generations, almost a dead letter. The modern notion that Sunday laws can go no further than to protect the quiet of those who wish to enjoy the day religiously, will not be overthrown by the revival of obsolete enactments, nor was it intended to be by the revisers.

It is not a wonder that President Arthur calls a halt on the excessive taxation of the people. The only wonder is that it has been allowed to continue so long. The people have been so accustomed to contributing large sums to the government for the past twenty years, that few have thought to question it until the late war. A still smaller number have failed to realize the extent of these taxes. When a prominent politician recently stated that the government was collecting a million dollars from the people every day, the fact seemed to come home with a force which it could not have had by simply saying that the collections were \$365,000,000 per annum. A million dollars daily means \$42,000 for every hour of the day and night. It means \$700 for every minute of the hour. It means about \$12 for every stroke of the pendulum. These, it must be remembered, are only federal taxes. The amount collected by state, city, county and town are to be added to give a full view of the burdens under which the people are laboring.

Georgia, according to the Atlanta Constitution, was saved last year by the bountiful crop. Everything looked dark for the farmers, and they realized that they must depend on themselves and make their farms self-sustaining. They therefore planted oats, when they were done planted oats, and then they were done winter and spring, feeding oats to their stock and selling oats for spare cash. It is not too much to say that oats did what many a politician has claimed to do "save the state." The farmers are advised not to hang every thing on cotton, or on any single crop, but to have mixed crops, so that a failure of one or more may not result in deprivation and impoverishment. This is good advice for the northwest as well as for the south. Don't put all your eggs in 127 1/2 basket:—don't raise wheat to the exclusion of every thing else.

DOINGS OF CONGRESS

Tuesday, Dec. 5.

SENATE.—Mr. Stanford presented a memorial relative to the admission of Dakota, and said in connection therewith that he would call up about Wednesday of next week, the bill for the admission of Dakota now on the calendar, and remarked that all doubts which may have existed as to there being sufficient population to entitle the territory to admission as a state must be removed by the return of the number of votes cast at a recent election.

Mr. Beck offered a resolution setting forth the law against buying political assessments and instructing the judiciary committee to investigate how much money was collected during the present campaign, how it was spent and whether there is any surplus, also to ascertain the number of persons dismissed from the public service since May, and how many of them failed to contribute to the resolution requiring the committee to report before February.

Mr. Hill gave notice that he would call up the resolution.

House.—After reading the Journal the speaker proceeded to call the committee for reports, and Mr. Kelley, from the ways and means, reported a bill to abolish the internal revenue tax on tobacco, snuff, cigars and cigarettes. Referred to the committee of the whole, and the minority granted leave to file a report on the subject.

Mr. Anderson (Kan.), asked that the bill be read, whereupon Mr. Kasson, in explanation, stated that the tax was taken off tobacco, cigars and cigarettes, and that the bill next, and that a small minority dissented from the provisions of the bill.

A message from the senate announced the death of Senator Hill, and after touching remarks by Mr. Hammond, the house as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, at 1:30 adjourned.

Wednesday, Dec. 6.

SENATE.—At the close of the morning hour Mr. Platt called up his resolution of yesterday, asking the commissioner of pensions to furnish information in reference to the pension roll and probable effect upon it of the passage of the pending bill to increase the pension of persons who lost an arm or leg in the war.

Mr. Sewell gave notice that he would call up, at an early date, the bill for the relief of Fitz-John Porter.

The following nominations were sent to the senate by the president: George E. Waring, Jr., Rhode Island, district attorney; William C. Calver, Illinois, Indian agent; William C. Connell, Ohio, Indian agent; N. M. R. Jordan, Arizona, Indian agent; N. M. R. Jordan, Arizona, Indian agent; N. M. R. Jordan, Arizona, Indian agent.

House.—Mr. Casswell offered a resolution amending the committee on appropriations to embody in the post office bill a clause reducing letter postage to cents. Adopted.

Mr. Kelley offered the usual resolution for the distribution of the president's message, and the house proceeded in committee of the whole to its consideration.

Mr. Kasson presented the views of the minority of the committee on ways and means, and the majority report was ordered printed. The minority report is signed by Kasson, Dannel, McKinley, and others.

Thursday, Dec. 7.

SENATE.—The bankruptcy bill was discussed. The principal speech was made today by Judge Garland of Arkansas, who is one of the best lawyers of the body.

House.—In committee of the whole the Indian appropriation bill was under discussion. The only new legislation in the open market whenever bid-offered under contract contained conditions detrimental to the interests of the government.

Friday, Dec. 8.

SENATE.—The internal revenue bill was recommitted to the finance committee, but not before Mr. Merrill had offered an amendment, which is substantially the tariff bill recommended by the tariff commission.

NEWS CONDENSED.

RAILROAD RUMBLINGS.

The Northern Pacific is open to Livingston passengers on the new year day. St. Paul to Bismarck, Montana is 68 hours and to Helena is 75 hours. The trip to Bozeman includes about 15 hours of stage riding, and to Helena about 33 hours of stage riding. The new schedule was inaugurated by Fisk's emigration parties in 1882 to 1884 occupied each 10 weeks to three months.

The report of the railroad commissioner of the United States shows that the Union and Central Pacific railway system in its financial condition for the month of November was \$701,324, an increase of \$285,714.

WASHINGTON NEWS NOTES.

Mrs. McElroy, President Arthur's sister will return the last part of the month and take up her residence in the White House with Mr. Arthur when he moves in.

The subject of political assessments is likely to become a very interesting one this winter, through the investigation which is being set on foot in congress.

FOREIGN NEWS GOSIP.

The Mexican minister of foreign affairs says the report that commissioners have been appointed to negotiate a commercial treaty with the United States is incorrect.

PERSONAL NEWS NOTES.

Death of Anthony Trollope.

Narrow Escape of Gen. John Gibbon.

GENERAL NEWS IN BRIEF.

Interior Department's Report.

Successful Recipe for Diphtheria.

Three New Land Districts.

A Lover's Disillusion.

Don Cameron is indignant at the president for appointing Michael. He says Michael was not a bad republican but was never his friend, and that his appointment was mean lick at the Pennsylvania republicans.

DAKOTA NEWS.

WASHERSON'S OPPOSITION TO DAKOTA'S ADMISSION.

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RECORD OF CRIME.

At Council Bluffs, the hotel clerk at the Western house has got into trouble by too much marrying. He made a match on a stock of the last two years, and a few bad New York shipwrecks caused the break up.

At North Adams, Mass., Stephen Tripp is held for the grand jury on a charge of robbery of Troy & Boston cars. It is also charged that on Oct. 29 a Troy & Boston passenger train was thrown from the track by ties placed on the track.

The warden of the Joliet penitentiary reports 1,435 convicts on hand, of whom 22 are women.

Financial officers of Louisville are short \$300,000, and are being investigated.

The Central news announces that Lord Lyons, British ambassador at Paris, has informed France, that England will not consent to her forcing a protectorate on Madagascar.

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THE MARKETS.

ST. PAUL. Flour—Ontario, \$6.00; extra, \$6.25; clear, \$6.50; standard, \$6.75; common brands, \$6.80; in bulk, 50c extra. Best wheat flour, \$8.00; in bulk, 50c extra. Corn, \$1.00; in bulk, 50c extra. Hides, \$1.00; in bulk, 50c extra. Wool, \$1.00; in bulk, 50c extra. Tallow, \$1.00; in bulk, 50c extra. Lard, \$1.00; in bulk, 50c extra. Butter, \$1.00; in bulk, 50c extra. Eggs, \$1.00; in bulk, 50c extra. Chickens, \$1.00; in bulk, 50c extra. Poultry, \$1.00; in bulk, 50c extra. Game, \$1.00; in bulk, 50c extra. Fish, \$1.00; in bulk, 50c extra. Vegetables, \$1.00; in bulk, 50c extra. Fruits, \$1.00; in bulk, 50c extra. Miscellaneous, \$1.00; in bulk, 50c extra.