

John Taylor, the Mormon President, in a recent address, complained of the persecutions to which Mormons are subjected, and hinted that they would make another flight for safety, and to a foreign country.

Mrs. Dudley, the English woman who attempted to kill O'Donovan Rossa, is admitted to have been at a former period of unbalanced mind, and this will probably be her line of defense for the shooting of Rossa. Undoubtedly she is what is known here as a "crank" of the style of Guiteau, as assassins usually are.

Though the Cullom interstate commerce bill passed the Senate by a large majority, there being only twelve votes in the negative, it is pretty certain to fail in the House, which adopted the Reagan bill by a handsome majority. A compromise is barely possible, but the impression prevails that the whole matter will go over to another session.

The secretary of the interior has recommended to congress that about seven million acres of land included in the Blackfoot, Fort Peck and Fort Belknap Indian agencies, Montana, be restored to the public domain and opened to settlement, and that the Indians be paid \$75,000 annually at each agency for fifteen years. There are many other Indian reservations in the country that will be served in the same way, if not wholly taken for settlement.

After a full discussion of the Lovering Pension bill the Massachusetts Department of the Grand Army of the Republic has been declared against it. The bill, as is well known is a proposition to pension every man who served in the war of the rebellion sixty days, regardless of his present condition or pecuniary standing. The vote was sufficiently decided to show that the sentiment of the men who comprise the posts in Massachusetts is hostile to the proposition after a careful consideration of its merits.

The fame of Los Angeles, the metropolis of Southern California, as a health resort, has given it a remarkable degree of prosperity. Improvements are going on in every direction, money is plenty, and the people are happy and hospitable. The population has largely increased within a few years. No severe cold is ever experienced, 28 deg. above zero being the lowest ever registered in Los Angeles, and that in only one instance. The mean average temperature of January—a representative winter month—is 52 deg., but 15 deg. lower than the mean average of July.

A committee of the Pennsylvania state senate reported against a bill to punish wife-beating with the lash, to be administered in the presence of witnesses in the jail yard, at a whipping-post. The strength of the growing sentiment in favor of the whipping-post for this class of offenses was shown by the senate voting down the report, and voting to take up and consider the bill by 32 to 16. This does not necessarily insure the passage of the bill, but it indicates a growing conviction that wife-beating is not at present, adequately punished, and the necessity of more ignominious and personally painful treatment than is now prescribed by the laws for such an ignominious offence.

In reply to the Senate's request for information in regard to the proposed opening up for settlement of the Oklahoma lands in the Indian Territory, ceded to the United States by Indians for the use of Indians and freedmen, Secretary Teller says that the Interior Department has always held that no person had a right to settle on those lands without the Indians' consent. The Department had never permitted leases or licenses for grazing. The area of the lands is 1,887,300 acres. It is valuable for stockraising and agriculture, the game has disappeared and there no longer remains a good reason, he says, why they should be held for the Indians to roam over. The objection that opening the lands to settlement will break our covenant with the Indians may be obviated by a new treaty with the Indians' consent. He says it is not proposed to despoil them or compel their acceptance of less than the full value of the lands surrendered.

NEWS OF THE WEEK SUMMARIZED.

The Great Storm. CHICAGO, Feb. 10.—The worst effect of the storm appears to be southeast of Chicago. Trains between here and Louisville and Cincinnati are completely blocked. The morning trains east were abandoned except by one line. All incoming trains from the west are six to eighteen hours late. Trains left for the west on time. Freight business on all the roads is practically suspended. Specials furnish the following news: At Galena the blockade is the worst known for several years on the Madison division of the Northwestern road. A passenger train is off the track and in drifts near Lake Mills. Several freight trains are snowed in between Montfort and Lancaster. At Eau Claire, Wis., the thermometer indicated 35 below this morning. At La Salle, Ill., at the same time it was 28 below. Within fifteen miles of Streator, Ill., there are a dozen dead engines. Not a single train arrived to-day on either of the five roads running through the city. The Southern Dakota and Northern Nebraska lines are not affected by the storm, as the snowfall was light, and trains are running as usual. At Sterling, Ill., it was 22 below this morning, and is growing colder to-night. At one point in Decatur it touched 36 below, though in other parts of the city it was about 20 below. At Mattson, Ill., it was 26 below. At Paxton, Ill., the range was from 15 to 20 all day. Edwardsville, Ill., reports peaches in that vicinity killed.

THE NORTHWESTERN ROAD sent out no through trains, and its consolidated suburban trains were blocked at the city limits. Its train from Milwaukee is in the snow at Ravenswood, a few miles out. Three trains arrived, from two to eight hours late, over the Pennsylvania road. Its trains went out as usual to-night. The Chicago division of the Rock Island roads is in fair working order. The Baltimore and Ohio is blocked by a train at Haskell, Ind., and its track is invisible most of the way from that point to Valparaiso. The Wabash has been out of business since yesterday. The Michigan Central had one train in late to-day and sent its usual trains out this afternoon and evening. A way train from Burlington left at noon and when heard of to-night was progressing slowly. No trains arrived over this route. The Chicago & Atlantic is blocked. The Lake Shore seems to have suffered less than the others and its trains are running nearly on time. Suburban trains in every direction are moving slowly, but many persons fear to risk the night in cars and restrict this afternoon. The Fort Wayne express was run into head and head, by a switch engine going to the relief of suburban trains. The trainmen saved themselves by jumping. The passengers were badly shaken up. Both engines were wrecked. On the Grand Trunk four engines spent four hours in clearing two miles of track, and two of them were ditched. The weather has been very cold all day. At 8 o'clock this morning a standard thermometer marked 16 below, and it remained unchanged until noon. At noon it was 14 below. The highest period of the day was at 6 p. m., when it marked 16 below, and at 8 p. m. 22 below. Wabash, Ind., reports traffic on the Chicago & Atlantic, and the Cincinnati, Wabash & Michigan completely suspended. Several locomotives sent out by the former company are imbedded in drifts, where they will remain till the weather moderates. The Wabash road is running no freight and has abandoned several passenger trains. It is blowing a hurricane to-night, and is bitterly cold. In Chicago the weather began to moderate at 11 o'clock, and at midnight the temperature had risen 2 deg. to 20 below.

THE SITUATION IN IOWA. Mcgregor, Iowa, Special Telegram, Feb. 10.—The intensely cold weather of to-day and last night has practically suspended business. It was 30 degrees below zero this morning at 8 o'clock and has remained very cold all day. To-night is the coldest of the season. Passenger trains on the River and Iowa & Dakota divisions have suspended, except the Dubuque and other divisions are from four to six hours late. Davenport, Iowa, Special Telegram, Feb. 10.—The snow blockade on the railroads continues. No trains have arrived since Monday morning and are all known to be in drifts west and southwest of here. A train from Chicago and one from St. Louis are expected to-night. No trains will be started East till one hour after the close of the Southwest. The Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific is offering 50 cents and \$1 an hour in the city for hands to go West and assist in moving the blockade. Dubuque, Iowa, Special Telegram, Feb. 10.—This was the coldest and severest day of the season. The mercury at 6 a. m. indicated 30 below zero. No trains arrived or departed from this city to-day, with the exception of an excursion train for New Orleans. No mail was received from the east or west to-day till 4 p. m., an Illinois Central train got through from Waterloo. From there the Sioux City trains are all abandoned. It will take two days to open the road.

Heading for La Moure. A La Moure, Dak., exchange says: A small party of railroad explorers are said to be already heading toward La Moure from the direction of the Sisseton reservation. As the Milwaukee & St. Paul company have recently secured the long-coveted right to extend their line into and through this reservation, the report is no doubt correct, and the exploring party in the interest of the company. Insiders have for a year past predicted the Milwaukee & St. Paul would reach La Moure in 1885, and rumors are current of a combination or agreement under which at least one, and possibly two other roads, will come here from the south at an early date. It is said that this agreement, if it exists, contemplates that these southern roads will, for some years at least, rest at La Moure, the James River road furnishing them a common connection with the Northern Pacific at Jamestown, while the Fargo & Northwestern is expected to be completed at once to Bismarck, and then afford all the southern roads a direct connection with the capital.

A Coming Investigation. On the 20th of last December the PIONEER PRESS mentioned that the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul had caught the Omaha line in selling thirteen tickets to teachers at less than agreed rates for New Orleans. The former submitted the matter and also the evidence in the case to J. F. Tucker of Chicago, the arbitrator. Mr. Tucker has not yet given a decision. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul has tried to get a statement from the teachers since their return early in January last, as to what they paid, but it is said are experiencing great difficulty in securing such statements from the alleged fact that the leader of the party of teachers, a principal in one of the schools of Minneapolis, received her ticket for nothing, and consequently is said to have pledged all the others to secrecy. The above being a subject of gossip in local railroad circles, it is rumored that measures will be taken to bring the case into the courts for the purpose of forcing these teachers to tell the truth, in which case there are likely to be some racy and sensational developments.

Another Outlet. A new railroad company has filed articles of incorporation recently, at Lansing, Mich.—the Ishpeming, L'Anse & Ontonagon. The incorporators are Detroit men, who have been prominently identified with the Detroit, Mackinac & Western, and the new road will probably be an extension of that road. It is generally supposed that the Detroit, Mackinac & Western people propose to extend their road to meet the Northern Pacific at Ashland. The distance by wagon road is only about ninety-five miles, and a branch of the Detroit, Mackinac & Western will surely be built soon from the main line to the Sault Ste. Marie. The Canadian Pacific will reach the "800," and this will give an all-rail route between Portland, Or., and Portland, Me. The plan is simple, and the only thing now lacking is eighty-five or ninety miles of road between Ashland and Ontonagon, forty miles between Ontonagon and L'Anse, and thirty miles from that point to Sault Ste. Marie.

Roswell Miller is talked about for Merrill's successor. William Forester, stage manager of the Boston Ideal, died at Baltimore.

The people of Eureka, Cal., rose up and drove every Chinaman out of town.

Near Wahpeton, Dak., Mrs. August Dill confesses to the murder of her husband.

A fire in the signal service office at Washington destroyed many valuable records.

A five-shooter was pulled out of Capt. Phelan's bandages in the Tomba police court.

Hereafter attendance upon public worship Sunday morning will not be obligatory at Harvard.

Oliver T. Morton, a son of the late senator, has commenced his labors as editor of the Indianapolis Times.

Henry George, back from England, says the Radical movement is making head there, in spite of dynamite.

The cashier of the Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance company at New York is said to be a defaulter.

New York merchants complain the Western Union forces Postmaster Pearson to suppress the news of steamer arrivals.

George D. Phillips, of the New York Athletic club, won the twenty-five mile skating contest for the championship of America.

Col. Ingersoll now has an income of about \$100,000 per year, and thinks of going to Europe for a few years to give the theologians a rest.

It is reported that friends of Smythe and Wilson, who were lynched at Audubon, Iowa, have organized with the purpose of burning the town.

Edward Arnot, an actor, at one time leading man at Wallack's, and the Union Square theaters, New York, committed suicide in Chicago by cutting his throat with a razor.

Edward P. Wetzel, of Philadelphia, who has failed three times through speculation, killed himself because his check for \$600 was dishonored.

Charles Jackson, cashier of the Park theater, Chicago, found his wife in a disreputable house in New York. She had refused to live with him, but finally consented to do so.

If the Rev. Herber Newton has been desirous of posing as a martyr he is to be given the opportunity. Bishop Potter of New York having ordered his trial for heretical teachings.

Annie and Ella Miller, aged seventeen and thirteen respectively, were struck by the mail and express at Mapleton, Pa., recently. Ella was instantly killed, and Annie seriously injured, but will probably recover.

A dispatch from Tower City, Dak., says that a fire broke out in the Herald office, destroying it, Dr. Russell's office, the Tower library, of 1,500 volumes, and Dr. Engel's drug store. Nothing was saved in the Herald office.

On Friday, Jan. 30, Mrs. Elizabeth McLaughlin died at Escanaba, Mich., leaving three young children. Her husband Thomas McLaughlin, was last heard of in St. Paul. If the latter does not turn up, the children are left without a protector.

The wedding of William Dwight Chandler, son of the secretary of the navy, and Lily M. Proctor, only daughter of L. C. Proctor, a prominent banker and mill-owner, was celebrated in Winona, Minn., Monday evening, at the residence of the bride's parents.

Fire was discovered in the extensive grocery store of Burns & Duggan, in Dubuque which threatened the entire building, but was subdued. The principal loss is on the stock, which is about \$8,000; insured for \$1,450. Loss on building \$1,000; fully insured.

A. B. McKay of Minneapolis, who has been boarding at the Saxton hotel, Omaha, for one week, has been arrested on a charge of trying to beat the hotel, and is lodged in jail in that city. He claims he is all straight and expects a remittance, but will not say what his business is.

Joe Howard, alias Kilrain, who was arrested by Pinkerton in Philadelphia and held to await a requisition from the governor of Michigan is wanted for robbery of the First National bank of Coldwater of \$10,000 worth of diamonds and a considerable sum of money in 1883.

Reports from various states concerning the winter wheat crop indicate a considerable decrease in acreage, particularly in the southern belt. In Minnesota, Statistician Young thinks there will be a falling off of 10 per cent. while from Dakota it is reported that there is little likelihood of an increase.

A sensation was created at Warren, Ohio recently, by the arrest of Mrs. Tillie King, wife of A. A. King of Cleveland, on a charge of adultery. King says his wife remained over night at a Cleveland hotel with a man named Jewell. Mrs. King declares it is a put-up job to ruin her reputation.

A spirited fight at the post office department recently occurred between Mr. Kennedy, a clerk, and Mr. Jefferson, chief of a division in the money order bureau. Fists were effective used, and those were supplemented with bottles of ink. A policeman arrested Kennedy, who was the attacking party.

Senator Don Cameron has started for Florida. His health has been failing of late, and his physicians advised him not to remain in Washington any longer. Cameron has had two hemorrhages recently, and is advised to seek a milder climate and take as much outdoor exercise as possible.

Men searching the ruins of the burned starch factory and distillery at Peoria, Ill., found the bodies of Ephraim Doolittle, the night watchman, and Andrew Bryan, fireman. The beer runner is still missing, and fears are entertained that he perished. The loss will reach \$100,000, with \$55,000 insurance.

The trial of Jansson of Liege, and Knipper of Birkenfeld, on the charge of high treason in selling to France plans for the mobilization of the German corps d'armee, will begin at Leipzig March 3. The government has ordered the trial to be conducted in secrecy, and that only the sentence of the prisoners be published.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

SENATE.—A joint resolution passed accepting from Mrs. U. S. Grant her husband's swords medals and other articles. The bill creating an army retired list for privates and non-commissioned officers passed. Several private pension bills were passed, upon one of which was enacted several provisions of the Mexican pension bill, one increasing \$8 pensions to \$12 a month. The District of Columbia appropriation bill passed.

The chair named Messrs. Hoar and Pendleton as tellers on the part of the senate in the count of the electoral vote.

Senator Miller of New York, from the committee on agriculture favorably reported the bill to provide that the agricultural department shall be an executive department under the supervision of a secretary of agriculture. The compensation of the secretary shall be the same as the secretaries of the other executive departments. An assistant secretary of agriculture shall be appointed, at the same salary received by the assistant secretary of the interior. A chief clerk, at an annual salary of \$2,500, shall also be appointed. The bill further provides for the creation of divisions of veterinary science and forestry in the department.

House.—The whole day spent in discussing the river and harbor bill.

SENATE.—The bill to retire trade dollars and suspend the coinage of standard silver dollars was debated; likewise the pension bill. During the discussion the chair ruled that an amendment proposing new legislation was admissible. An appeal was taken and the chair sustained—55 to 23.

The situation with regard to the pension bill now in the senate will occur only in the appropriation; all the legislation in the matter of pension claim agents having been passed in a separate bill last week and sent to the house, where it lies on the speaker's desk, to be called up only by unanimous consent, which is likely not to be had. The next session the President sent the following nominations: Edward S. Curtis, Idaho, secretary of Idaho; Ellis L. Bierbower, marshal of the United States, district of Nebraska.

Confirmations.—Postmaster, Thomas M. Purcell, Cumberland, Wis.; William E. Curtis, Illinois, secretary to the South American commission; receipt of public moneys, Allen W. Eaton, Oxford, Idaho.

HOUSE.—The river and harbor bill was discussed for a time, and then the postoffice appropriation bill was considered.

SENATE.—The chair laid before the senate a memorial in the form of a joint resolution from the legislature of Dakota urging division of the territory and admission of its southern portion as a state. The senate passed Sherman's joint resolution providing for striking medals to commemorate the dedication of the Washington monument. The consideration of the bill to prevent the unlawful occupancy of public lands was resumed. This is the bill known as the anti-fencing bill. It passed with slight amendments. The anti-silver coinage bill was postponed until to-morrow. The consideration of the pensions appropriation bill was continued, and the senate committee's amendments concurred in.

The senate then resumed consideration of the house bill repealing the pre-emption and timber culture laws.

After some debate, Mr. Dolph proposed an amendment providing that all entries heretofore made under the pre-emption laws on which final proof and payment have been made, to which there are no adverse claims and which have been sold to innocent purchasers, shall be confirmed and patented upon the presentation of satisfactory proof to the proper department officer.

Mr. Sherman thought this required careful consideration. It might operate to deprive the United States of the right to recover lands originally obtained from them by fraud.

Without a decision on the amendments the senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—The whole session was taken up by a discussion of the post office appropriation bill.

SENATE.—The bill for a permanent reservation for Northern Montana Indians passed. The bill to repeal the pre-emption and timber culture acts was debated. After returning to the senate chamber upon the concision of the presidential count in the house, a long debate ensued regarding the concision of Mr. Edmunds's declaration of the presidential vote, viz: "Not as possessing any authority in law to declare any legal conclusion whatever."

Mr. Ingalls offered the following resolution: Resolved, That the senate does not assent to the concluding declaration of the president of the senate in the announcement of the vote for president and vice president of the United States, made in the presence of the two houses of congress this day.

Mr. Hoar offered the following: Resolved, That the senate is of the opinion that the constitution and laws have been duly executed and that no further declaration of those facts is necessary. Both were laid over.

HOUSE.—The past office bill was debated and at the conclusion of the Presidential count, a long debate ensued in regard to the announcement thereof.

WASHINGTON, Special Telegram, Feb. 12.—The senate, after spending two long executive sessions and the entire afternoon in a chaotic debate, passed the house bill to repeal the pre-emption and timber culture laws by 20 to 20. It is safe to say that no bill has been passed this session which is in a worse muddle and is less understood. The discussion to-day was on Palmer's amendment. This was simply the old and much-described Ontonagon land grant bill, which was successfully tacked on the repeal. The original bill is virtually the bill which Gen. Washburn got through the house two years ago. It was passed by the house last June. The amendment provides:

Whenever public lands have been withdrawn from sale by grants made to aid in construction of railroads, and such withdrawals have been terminated by act of congress, executive order, or order by the land department, or where lands have been, by operation of law, reduced in price to \$1.25 per acre and purchased in good faith or secured with warrants or scrip, and the officers of the land department have issued certificates or patents in accordance with this purchase without such lands having first been proclaimed by the president and offered at public auction; and where on the 25th of January, 1885, there were no valid conflicting claims thereto or statements thereon, all such entries, etc., are confirmed and declared valid and legal.

Morgan amended Palmer's amendment so as to except two hundred or more settlers who have gone on the disputed lands in Northern Michigan and entered homesteads. The Palmer amendment passed by a close party vote. Senator Vest produced a sensation by reading a letter from a Michigan citizen, charging that the proposition covered a big steal, in which a few capitalists were interested. Senator Palmer, in a very temperate speech, denied the aspersions, but the letter produced a hub-bub for some time afterward. Commissioner McFarland says there are between 100,000 and 200,000 acres of land embraced in the Ontonagon amendment. The original entry men, having paid \$1.25 for them, and having paid taxes in many cases for fifteen years, will now have

their patents endorsed as regular. The senate amendments to the original house bill are numerous and sweeping—so much so that there is no expectation that they will be concurred in. The final vote was almost a strict party one, Edmunds being the only Republican to vote against the repeal, and Brown the only Democrat to vote in the affirmative.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The resolutions offered yesterday by Messrs. Ingalls and Hoar, relating to the electoral count, were, on motion of Mr. Hoar, referred without comment to the committee on privileges and elections.

A resolution offered by Mr. Sherman was agreed to, authorizing the president of the senate to appoint a committee of three senators to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration of the president-elect.

The chair laid before the senate the house concurrent resolution providing for a joint committee of three members of the house of representatives and two senators to notify Grover Cleveland of his election as president of the United States from the 4th of March next, and Thomas A. Hendricks of his election as vice president from the same date.

On motion of Mr. Garland, it was referred to the committee on privileges and elections. Mr. Garland said the phraseology of the resolution needed looking at. The senate passed the original joint resolution authorizing the president to return to the government of Great Britain the steamer Alert, with the thanks of the United States. The bill to quiet titles of the Des Moines river settlers was then taken up.

In his opening prayer the chaplain of the house invoked divine protection upon him who had been elected president. It was ordered that on and after Monday next, the house will meet at 11 o'clock. The senate amendments to the consular and diplomatic appropriation bills were non-concurred in and a conference committee appointed. Several bills for the construction of public buildings passed.

Mr. Thompson called up the bill amending the Pacific railroad act, so as to authorize the construction of a road from Sioux City, Iowa, to a point on the Northern Pacific railroad west of the 100th meridian. Pending consideration the hour allowed under the special rule expired. Nathan A. Dixon of Rhode Island was sworn in as successor to Mr. Chase. Mr. Tucker, from the committee on judiciary, reported a bill providing for the payment of judgment rendered by the supreme court of the District of Columbia in the case of Hallett Kilbourne against J. G. Thompson. Committee of the whole.

From a single grain of wheat planted in 1881, says the Grass Valley, Cal., Record, grew twenty-two stalks, each bearing a full head. These yielded 860 grains, 760 of which were planted the next year, producing one fifth of a bushel of splendid wheat. This was planted last spring, yielding seventeen bushels, making 1,020 pounds of wheat from one grain in three years.

The upper waters of the Delaware and its branches, and the headwaters of the Charlotte River, or east branch of the Susquehanna, near Delhi, N. Y., have been literally overrun with muskrats for the past month. Five local trappers on these streams have captured over three thousand since the first of the month, for which they received \$450. Minks have increased largely in this region during the past few years, as their skins have not commanded a price to make it worth while trapping for them.

Los Angeles county, Cal., is booming with prosperity. The increase of the acreage of vineyards over 1883 is 5,500 acres and the yield of wine 1,550,000 gallons greater. The area of land cultivated has increased 97,000 acres, the yield of corn 553,610 bushels, of barley 1,500,000 bushels and of wheat 2,500,000 bushels, while there is a corresponding increase in the root and fruit crops, the raisin, nuts, olives and many other products. The valuation has increased \$2,814,931 during the year. From present indications the coming season will eclipse the past.

One of the large reservoirs of the fish farm of M. D. Calkins, near Nevada City, Nev., was emptied recently in order to ascertain how the fish placed therein at various times had prospered. The mirror carp, brought from Washington, D. C., and planted a year ago last March, when they were six months old, now weigh 11 pounds, and measure 2 feet 2 1/2 inches in length, and 18 inches around the largest part of the body.

Mrs. Crowl, the widow of a merchant of Cleveland, O., who left a fortune of \$200,000, has been ruined by her only son, who, being entrusted with the care of her money, lost it all in grain speculations. He has fled to South America with a girl whom he married from a concert saloon. All her property has been seized to pay his debts, and she is left entirely destitute.

The new lord mayor of London is Alderman Nottage, who was brought up in the iron business and several years ago was sheriff of London and Middlesex. He founded a widely known artistic establishment, and built the Orleans Club and other handsome buildings at Brighton. Like most lord mayors who, as Macaulay says, though useful and highly respectable, seldom belong to princely and well-renowned commercial houses, the new magistrate is a member of a number of the municipal guilds, such as the spectacle makers and lorners, and was this year master of the Carpenter's Company.

Owen Brown, the only survivor of the old John Brown Harper's Ferry episode of 1859, lives in the Jay Cook island mansion "Gibraltar," Put-in-Bay island. Owen is now about 55 year old.

The superiority of American dredging machines, which has been shown in the work on the Panama Canal, has led to orders for them by foreign governments. The last of these is from Spain. A drag boat, with a screw propeller of a hundred horse power, five iron barges, and two towboats have been called for to be used at the port of San Juan, Porto Rico. Three months are allowed for sending in proposals, and eight months thereafter for building the apparatus.