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## NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.**—The Senate today confirmed the nominations of John A. Bingham as Minister to Japan, James H. Howe as Judge of the U. S. District Court of Wisconsin, Collectors of Internal Revenue: Edgar P. Suow for Wyoming Territory, and Thomas P. Fuller for Montana; Fred. Latorbet as Consul General to Paris. At the next session the Senate Committee on Judiciary will make a favorable report on the nomination of George H. Williams for Chief Justice.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.**—It is reported to-night that the President has decided to appoint Robert W. Hughes, late Republican candidate for Governor of Virginia, as United States Judge for the Virginia District, vice Judge Underwood, deceased.

**CINCINNATI, Dec. 23.**—Gen. W. B. Belknap, Secretary of War, was married at Harrisburg yesterday, to Mrs. H. T. Bowers, daughter of John A. Tomblinson. The ceremony owing to a recent affliction in the family of the bride's relatives, was wholly private.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.**—Kelly has introduced a bill giving Oregon two years more in which to select swamp lands.

McFadden has introduced bills appropriating \$300,000 for public building at Olympia, and \$400,000 for similar purposes at Port Townsend; also directing surveys for improving rivers in Washington Territory.

The House Committee on Public Lands is considering the policy of repealing the pre-emption laws and reserving the public domain for homestead settlement in quarter sections, except in the case of grazing lands, where large tracts will be allowed.

The proposed renewal of the tea and coffee duties encounters less opposition than was expected, and the chances of its adoption are considered good by leading members of Congress since the Treasury recommends it, unless inflationists insist on the issue of more currency instead of increasing taxes.

A meeting of Representatives to-night to consider the subject of water transportation was attended by fifty or sixty representatives. There was a long discussion by Western and Southern members, who seemed determined on Government aid. Without definite action the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chairman.

In the House, the Judiciary Committee have agreed to report in favor of a total repeal of the bankrupt act.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations recommend five millions—the amount originally asked—for extraordinary naval service.

Some of the Pacific Coast members are much dissatisfied that none of their number are on Committees of Indian Affairs or Land Claims.

Speaker Blaine, whose intentions were right, was evidently betrayed by somebody. The Indian Committee contains a majority of Eastern men. One member is a colored representative from South Carolina, to the exclusion of Nesmith, whose Congressional experience in Indian Affairs is invaluable. Territorial Delegates are trying to get the blunder corrected in part, by the appointment of an additional member.

**NEW YORK, Dec. 11.**—A mass meeting of working men, under the auspices of the Internationalists, was held this evening at Cooper Institute. Theodore H. Banks, painter, presided. As early as 7:30 the hall was crowded in every part. Several hundred women were present. Telegrams were received from Cleveland and Chicago wishing success to the meeting. Around the platform were many mottoes, such as "We demand a suspension of rents for three months." "The general that commands this army is General Distress." "When workmen begin to think, monopolists begin to tremble." and others of equally significant character. A handbill was circulated enumerating high salaries, paid officers, and demanding more salaries for themselves. The number of homeless men and women was given at 10,000; those in station houses, 7,500, every week; and out of trades-unions 250 men were idle, and only 5,500 employed. It is also stated that there are 18,000 skilled workmen idle in the city, and 38,000 women earning only an average of \$3 00 per week. Addresses were read on the duty of the Government to protect the industrial classes, and reciting that when the Government fails in that duty, it should be set aside or overthrown.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.**—The House Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads, held a meeting yesterday at which the bill proposed by the sub-committee with reference to the delivery of public documents through the mails, was adopted. The bill agreed upon, in substance, authorizes public documents to be sent free through the mails, with a free exchange of newspapers and free delivery of newspapers in counties wherein they are published.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.**—The Secretary of War has reported to the House of Representatives that there is an apparent devaluation in the account of Gen. O. O. Howard of the Freedmen's Bureau. The total amount of money missing is \$278,000, some of which the War Department thinks can be recovered by suit against Howard & Church and the Young Men's Christian

Association here, who have received some of the money. Official investigation of the Adjutant General's Office, shows that most of the money taken belongs to the Colored Bounty Fund, and that claimants neither got the money nor can General Howard produce a voucher. Howard's papers are in such endless confusion that the Government can only tell how much money it has lost by the amount appropriated. Howard is to be prosecuted civilly, criminally, and by court martial, under the 39th article of war.

**COOPERSTOWN, N. Y., Dec. 13.**—Samuel Nelson, Judge of the United States Supreme Court, died suddenly of apoplexy, while sitting in his chair, at 1½ o'clock this afternoon, at his residence in this place.

**BOSTON, Dec. 12.**—Fears are now entertained that Prof. Agassiz may linger for a considerable time in his paralytic state. His recovery is considered improbable.

**BOSTON, Dec. 14.**—Professor Agassiz died this evening at a quarter past 10.

**NEW YORK, Dec. 15.**—Prof. Proctor, the English Astronomer Royal, has opposed the award of the gold medal to Miss Mitchell, on the ground that, although she had undoubtedly discovered the comet, she had neglected to send news of the discovery by the first mail. Professor Proctor predicts a wonderful scientific future for America.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.**—Secretary Richardson, in a letter to Representative Dawes, reiterates his previously expressed views that it is better to obtain the necessary money by taxation than by increase of the National Debt by loan. He says he selected tea and coffee because the public would feel the tariff on these articles less than on any others.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.**—The Committee on Foreign Affairs have organized to-day, proceeded in a body to pay their respects to Secretary Fish at the Department of State. Being interrogated relative to the Virginia affair, the Secretary said: "Everything is going on smoothly. Nothing has occurred, or is likely to occur, to prevent Spain from carrying out her promises."

**NEW YORK, Dec. 15.**—The Federal Council of Internationalists have repudiated the platform and resolutions of the Workingmen's meeting on Thursday night last.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.**—Several prominent Senators express surprise at the action of the House in devoting so much time to the debate on the salary question, when the country looks for legislation to relieve the present financial embarrassment, and restore confidence in monetary affairs. The Senate is ready to enter upon legislation at once if possible, and afford the necessary relief before the holidays. It is certain that there is less disposition in the Senate than in the House to agitate the salary question. There is a general indisposition among Congressmen to increase taxation, and it will not be done without the necessity being shown. No hasty action is anticipated. The Treasury Department is somewhat pressed for money, not only by the falling off of revenues, but by the extraordinary appropriation of \$4,000,000 or \$5,000,000 for naval purposes, and the redemption of the \$20,000,000 loan of 1858.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.**—In the House, Sargent introduced a bill relative to the public lands in California, and fixing the uniform price at \$1 25 per acre for mineral and agricultural lands.

Page introduced a bill making it felony to contract for the employment of Coolies in this country.

Nesmith introduced a bill to ascertain the losses by Indian raids in Oregon, and to transfer the management of Indian affairs to the War Department.

In the Senate, Mitchell introduced a bill directing the Secretary of War to cause surveys to be made to determine the practicability and cost of removing the Cascades and Dalles of the Columbia river. Ordered printed.

The House Committee on Appropriations this morning voted to offer a resolution in the House asking the President to request various Executive Departments to reverse their estimates for the new fiscal year, if possible, before January 5th. The object is to find means to cut down the estimates, which were all made several months before the recent financial disturbances began—even before it was known that the Government revenues were likely to fall behind the national expenditures.

**BOSTON, Dec. 15.**—The last hours of Prof. Agassiz were apparently spent in unconsciousness. At 2 P. M. on Sunday he had an attack similar to the one experienced before, of a suspension of respiration, which continued for half a minute, accompanied by other indications of approaching dissolution. These were succeeded by unnatural rapid breathing that continued to grow fainter with departing vigor. The patient lay on his side, and beyond an occasional convulsive movement of his limbs, there were no signs that he suffered pain. The funeral will take place at the College Chapel at Cambridge at 2:30 o'clock on Thursday afternoon, and will be public.

**BOSTON, Dec. 16.**—The under-graduates of Harvard College and Boston Society of Natural History have adopted resolutions appropriately relating to the death of Prof. Agassiz. His funeral has been appointed

for 2 P. M. on Thursday, in Appleton Chapel. Many scientific and other bodies, of which the late Professor was a member, have expressed a desire to take part in the funeral, but it has been decided as controllable to what would have been his own wishes, to decline all such offers.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.**—The Senate was in executive session for several hours yesterday afternoon, on the nomination of George H. Williams for Chief Justice. The Senate adjourned without confirming him. Some doubts are expressed by several Senators as to a favorable result.

Owing to the death, at a late hour last night, of Colonel Frederick Dent, the father of Mrs. Grant, there was no formal meeting of the Cabinet to-day, nor were visitors received by the President. Deceased was in his 88th year. He complained of being unwell yesterday, but no alarming symptoms were apparent until a short time before his death, which occurred without a struggle. The remains will be deposited in the family lot in the St. Louis cemetery.

**CALIFORNIA.**

**SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.**—Rev. Father Dugan, the apostate Catholic priest who did not expose the workings of the Church, as he advertised, has now written a most abject and penitent letter to Archbishop Alemany, acknowledging his fault and praying for the forgiveness of the Bishop and the Clergy.

**SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 14.**—Rain fell at intervals during the day and quite heavily this evening.

Other cases of small-pox are reported from the Chinese quarter of the city. Thus far the disease has been confined chiefly to that race.

Considerable rain has fallen in San Joaquin county, and no signs of its clearing off. Farmers are delighted with their prospects.

**STOCKTON, Dec. 13.**—The weather continues unsettled, with occasional showers.

The son of Hon. D. S. Terry, of Stockton, while cleaning his pistol, accidentally shot himself at Tejon ranch last night and died at midnight.

**BAKERSFIELD, Dec. 14.**—Private advices from Hudson's station, 45 miles south, dated yesterday, say a violent wind and sand storm set in at daylight yesterday morning and has continued with unabated fury up to the present hour. The fury of the storm has been without parallel to the knowledge of the oldest settlers. It was impossible for man or animal to withstand the fury of the blast. An impenetrable body of sand, gravel and pebbles filling the air, which formed in vast columns, completely obscuring the mountains from view. The telegraph line has been so powerfully charged with atmospheric electricity as to interrupt communication. A wagon belonging to the Telegraph Company, while entering the plain at Tejon Canyon, was blown over by the hurricane. There are about 150,000 sheep in the valley, and it is estimated that fully 10,000 will be driven astray, while quite a large number have perished. The snow, which fell to an unusual depth, has been drifting, and every slight depression caused by nature, looks as if it were a natural slope.

**SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 10.**—The weather to-night is variable and showery.

Steamer Alaska overdue from China and Japan, telegraphed off the harbor, will be in to-night.

**STOCKTON, Dec. 16.**—Advices from Milton, Calaveras county, this evening, says a tornado, accompanied by heavy rain, had passed over that place at 1:15 to-day, lasting about a few minutes. It struck buildings with great velocity, almost destroying the city. A new dwelling and old blacksmith and wagon shop, owned by J. G. Reiders, was entirely demolished. The other loss is estimated at \$2,000. Fox's new hotel was blown off of its foundation and damaged to the extent of \$1,000. A small frame structure in the rear of the hotel was hoisted from the ground and whisked through the air a distance of one hundred feet, striking with great force against the residence of Dr. Giles. McDonald & Johnson's hay barn was totally destroyed. The new school house was blown about eight feet off of its foundation. The Calaveras hotel was partly unroofed, and adjacent barns destroyed. The Stockton and Copperopolis Railroad depot was unroofed and the end of the building blown in. Several other buildings in the Chinese quarter sustained considerable damage. Total damage about \$7,000.

**NEVADA.**

**ELIAS, Dec. 13.**—The weather for the past four days has been unprecedented in the history of Nevada. The mercury has ranged from 18 to 25 degrees below zero in some instances poultry, hogs and cattle have perished in well protected stables. A number of ranchers have had their limbs frozen, while teamsters, who have been caught out on the prairie, must perish before reaching shelter. The trains are all delayed in consequence of being unable to keep the engines from freezing. The mercury to-night, from present indications, will go 22 degrees below zero, and no indication of a moderation.

**RENO, Nev., Dec. 13.**—A man named Ross was found dead on the trail between this place and Poeville, supposed to have been frozen to death.

**FOREIGN.**

**HAVANA, Dec. 12.**—The steamship Virginus was towed out of the harbor of Havana at half-past 4 o'clock this morning by a tugboat. She was escorted by the Spanish man-of-war Arabela La Católica. The tugboat returned to the city at 7 o'clock. The destination of the Virginus is supposed to be Key West.

**HAVANA, Dec. 12.**—The Virginus has gone to the port of Bahia Honda, sixty miles west of Havana, where she will be delivered by a Spanish man-of-war to a vessel of the U. S. Navy. Captain-General Jovellar has given the necessary order for the transfer of the Virginus prisoners at Santiago de Cuba.

**PARIS, Dec. 12.**—The island of St. Marguerite, off Cannes, has been selected as the place of confinement for Marshal Bazaine. He will be sent there this week.

**LONDON, Dec. 12.**—England has asked France to facilitate an inquiry into the Ville de Havre disaster, and has offered to defray the expenses of British witnesses. France has accepted the offer and promises that the investigation shall be searching and complete.

Fourteen persons have been found drowned in the docks since the late fog. Many other fatal accidents are reported.

**BERNE, Dec. 12.**—The Swiss Government has decided to hand the Papal Nuncio his passport, on account of the Pope's last encyclical letter.

**PARIS, Dec. 14.**—Elections were held to-day in the departments of Aude, Finistere and Seine et Oise for members of the Assembly. Partial returns indicate the election of the Radical candidates in Aude and the Republicans in Finistere and in Seine et Oise.

**LONDON, Dec. 15—6 A. M.**—A dispatch to the Daily News says a complete reconciliation has been effected between Castelar and Salernum.

**BERLIN, Dec. 15.**—Elizabeth, Queen Dowager of Prussia, is dead, aged 72.

**LONDON, Dec. 15—1:35 A. M.**—The storm has abated. The telegraph wires were prostrated in all directions, but the lines that are working bring news that the storm extended all over the north of England and far into Scotland. Sheffield looks as if it had been bombarded. The loss of property is immense. Churches were unroofed and many factories were compelled to suspend work. The lowest estimate places the casualties to persons in that city at seven killed and thirty wounded, many fatally. Other dispatches show that the effects of the hurricane were felt at Glasgow, Halifax, Shrewsbury and Nottingham, in all of which cities lives were lost and great damage done. At Leeds it is estimated that property to the amount of \$100,000 was destroyed. Extensive damage was done at West Hartlepool and Durham. Shipping suffered severely at Newcastle and Shields. A steamer went ashore at Ardrossan, and a railway station and several houses were blown down at Weston, on the York and North Midland Railway.

**LONDON, Dec. 16.**—Eugenie is visiting Victoria to-day.

**NEWS ITEMS.**

Thompson & Moad, of Payallup valley, W. T., last season cultivated seven acres of hops, from which they gathered 18,000 pounds. These they have recently sold in San Francisco for the highest market price, realizing, after paying every expense, a clear profit of \$5,018.

The Seattle Intelligencer of the 6th inst. says: "On Monday last, one of the fiercest gales visited this locality. No damage was done in town, but on the outskirts the house of Mr. Uden was demolished by a large tree falling across it.

Judge Jacobs, of Washington Territory, is reported so ill at Port Townsend that he was unable to finish the term of Court at that place last week.

Kauka Joe, after due trial at Port Townsend, has been found guilty of the murder of Dwyer, and sentenced to be hung at San Juan, Friday, March 6, 1874.

Mr. Lear, who lately arrived at Victoria, brought about 100 ounces of Cassiar gold, received from miners. He will return in January to Stickeen with a large stock of goods. The stock of provisions has almost given out at Buck's Bar, and a great deal of suffering will result if any more men rush in before stocks can arrive from Victoria. At Buck's Bar, flour is \$50 a barrel and everything else in proportion.

The Sentinel of Jacksonville, says the mercury got down to 12 degrees above zero at that place last week.

Thomas Randall, son of Prof. N. W. Randall, while out skating below Oregon City was attacked by a "rough," who had too much benzine aboard, and knocked senseless—the rough striking him over the eye with a whiskey bottle.

The Oregonian says the plans and specifications for the new Agricultural College at Corvallis have been completed, and were accepted a few days ago. Messrs. Krumboltz & Gilbert of Portland, prepared the plans.

Patrick Flynn, who pleaded guilty to the charge of voting illegally, has been sentenced by Judge Deady to one year's imprisonment in the Penitentiary, and to pay the costs of the prosecution.

The late rain and snow, says the Jacksonville Times, had the effect of placing enough water in the creeks to do some mining, but the heavy frost that has been prevailing this week holds the water in durance vice.

The Jacksonville Times says the late storm seemed to have been the severest in the

Lake country, the snow having fell to the depth of several inches and upward.

Rev. Thomas Condon is delivering a course of lectures on geology in Portland.

The Yamhill reporter is informed that Mrs. Enery, of Bellevue, recently met with an accident which, though proving severe was fortunately a narrow escape from resulting fatally to her. The lady went up stairs to get her child, and taking it in her arms started to descend the steps, but near the top she lost her footing and fell to the bottom, striking one shoulder against the wall at the foot of the steps. She was so badly hurt that she can scarcely move, but we did not learn that any bones were broken. The child was not hurt.

The Oregon City Mills are running night and day, and are turning out 240 barrels of flour in twenty-four hours' run; the Imperial Mills are only at present running on half time, and turn out 225 barrels per day, making 465 barrels of flour made daily in Oregon City.

A correspondent of the Oregonian, in Yamhill county, writes that Eugene Sullivan who read law with Bonham & Lawson, of Salem, and was admitted to the bar two years ago was last Monday adjudged insane. He has always been considered eccentric.

Sheriff Bird, of Yamhill county, has succeeded in capturing Henry Nordson, who was indicted in connection with Frank Starr by the late grand jury, for burglary. He was caught on the Upper Columbia on Saturday, the 6th inst.

The exercises of the graduating class of Pacific University, for the first term, came off last Wednesday evening at the Congregational Church, in Forest Grove. Orations and essays were the order of the evening.

The Democrat says the wheat product of Benton county this year, from shipment, will be about 331,000 bushels, one-third of which was raised on Long Tom.

The Benton Democrat wants a tug boat provided for the bar at Yaquina Bay. The recent loss of the John Hunter at Newport is the moving cause.

The Patrons of Husbandry in Lane county number over four hundred and twelve, exclusive of Snawlass Grange, 80 says the Guard.

A. Simpson, Deputy for Benton county, is about organizing a Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry in King's valley.

A little son of E. J. Northrup, Portland, had his thigh broken, on Thursday while coasting, his sled coming in collision with a wagon.

In Yamhill county, on Thursday last week, the mercury was down to four degrees above zero, the coldest for many years.

An infant son of Capt. O. H. Morgan, residing near Elvey's Landing, Whidbey Island, aged 18 months, was accidentally shot and instantly killed last Wednesday, by his brother, aged 9 years.

There were 273, 12 1/2 bushels the past season, on Camas Prairie, near Lewiston, more than 35,000 bushels of grain.

Wells, Fargo & Co. shipped from Silver City during the week ending November 29th, bullion to the amount of \$18,191 11.

Charles Rice, an esteemed citizen of Helena, fell under a wagon load of hay on the 26th ult. and was crushed to death.

Barry and Jump, who left Idaho City for Lemhi a week or two ago, went only as far as Deadman's Canyon. There they found five feet of snow, and being unable to get their animals through, were compelled to turn back. They lost their animals in their efforts to get through the snow.

General McMillen killed thirty-six single mallards, with his Parker gun at Nisqually on Thursday.

A wind storm in Boulder, Colorado, on the 29th ult., blew down about fifty houses, says the Denver News.

Col. Peter Saxe, with his wife, will leave on the next steamer for California, intending to spend the winter there, and return to Oregon next Spring.

V. K. Scrinia, Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows, returned to his home in Salem yesterday.

The Oregonian learns that Contractor Montgomery has a gang of men engaged in improving the condition of the channel at Umatilla Rapids. Work at Devils Bend has been completed several days.

John Ryan has pleaded guilty in the U. S. District Court at Portland of illegal voting.

The Oriflamme reached St. Helena, from whence the passengers, mails, baggage, and some freight were forwarded by river steamers to Portland.

**THE LATE EARTHQUAKE.**—The Corvallis Gazette says:

The earthquake must have been more severe nearer the coast, as we learn that from seven to ten miles from Crescent City the ground is found to be cracked in many places from three inches to four feet in width, and five and six feet deep. The excitement was very great for a while, and many people were badly frightened. The shock caused quite a tidal wave, but not sufficient to do any damage.

**YAKIMA LIGHTHOUSE.**—The Washington correspondent of the Eugene Journal writes that the authorities there contemplate the abandonment of Yaquina Bay Lighthouse, on the ground that the commerce of the place will not justify its continuance. Senator Mitchell will endeavor to have the Lighthouse maintained.

**YAKIMA.**—The Oregonian learns by a letter from a lady in Yakima valley that the snow was lying in the valley to a depth of about nine inches. On the morning of the 21 inst., the thermometer stood 8° below zero, and at the time the letter was written, the weather was growing colder.

**AFFIRMED.**—The U. S. Supreme Court has affirmed the decision of the Iowa Court in regard to railroad freights in the State. The decision was to the effect that the law of the State of Iowa regulating railroad freights was valid as within the power of the State to protect the people from imposition.

**PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 16.**—Wool is in demand, with an advancing tendency. No. 1 and medium pulled, 40½¢; Texas fine and super, 25½¢; Texas coarse, 18½¢; California fine and medium, 27½¢; California coarse, 20½¢.