

TODAY'S WEATHER.

Portland, Dec. 18.—For western Washington, fair weather, followed by rain. For Eastern Washington and Oregon, continued fair weather.

IN THE SENATE.

Dolph Speaks Against the Abandonment of Protection.

Washington, Dec. 18.—In the senate, after the reading of the president's message and the instructions to Minister Willis, they were referred to the committee on foreign relations. Morgan then introduced a joint resolution creating a committee to consist of three senators and three representatives to examine into and report upon the condition of the maritime canal of Nicaragua. The resolution authorized the committee to visit Nicaragua. It was referred to the committee on contingent expenses, with a request for speedy action.

Peffer introduced a bill providing for funds immediately to use in relieving the want and distress in the country.

Dolph, in accordance with the notice previously given, addressed the senate on the president's annual message, in an elaborate and carefully prepared speech against the abandonment of the protective system in the United States.

Morgan today introduced a bill as to provisional governments, providing that whenever the United States shall acquire dominion over any foreign country, or place, by treaty, annexation, or otherwise, the president, with the advice and consent of the senate, may appoint a governor for the same and a legislative council whose acts shall be subject to revision or repeal by congress. Referred to the committee on foreign relations.

PRENDERGAST'S TRIAL.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—In the Prendergast trial the counsel for the prosecution sprang a sensation by announcing that the state had been betrayed by the medical experts relied on to rebut the insanity evidence, as the testimony to be given had been carried by the doctors to the attorneys for the defense. Drs. Church and Brown, both insanity experts, employed by the state, today testified for the defense, declaring they considered Prendergast insane.

EXPRESS MESSENGER KILLED.

Houston, Tex., Dec. 18.—When the Southern Pacific east-bound train reached Liberty today, John Hutchinson, Wells, Fargo & Co.'s messenger was found dead in the car, his head cleaved open by a blow from an ax and the car robbed. There is no clue to the perpetrators.

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