

PUTTING IN PJRTER.

President Arthur to Appoint Him Colonel of Infantry.

Just as Soon as the First Vacancy in the List Offers an Opportunity.

Yesterday Congressional Work Confined Generally to Committee Hearings.

Particulars of the Plan for Testing the Spherical Precision of the Earth.

Miscellaneous Notes of a National Character.

CAPITAL NOTES.

National Associated Press.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 22.

Mr. McVeigh concluded his argument against the inter-state commerce bill before the house committee.

The New York chamber of commerce will be heard to-morrow, and Mr. E. H. Alexander, of Kentucky, on Friday.

Mr. Swift, of Swift & Courtney, Wilmington, Del., appeared in behalf of the match manufacturers of the United States, before the ways and means committee to-day, to oppose the abolition of the tax on matches.

The joint committee on library held a meeting to-day to consider the advisability of recommending the purchase of the Stevens collection of manuscripts and rare printed books written by or relating to Benjamin Franklin, which are offered to the government for \$7,000 sterling by their English possessor.

They comprise all papers bequeathed by Franklin to his grandson, William Temple Franklin, and include some 2,400 documents specially selected by Dr. Franklin for preservation after his retirement from public affairs and never printed.

GENERAL PORTER'S CASE.

It is now generally believed that the president will soon send to the senate the name of Fitz-John Porter as colonel of infantry in the regular army to fill the first vacancy.

There are a number of nice questions as to the status of General Porter in the regular and volunteer forces, he having been at the time of his dismissal a colonel in the regular and a brigadier general of volunteers. The last major general of volunteers was mustered out in 1866. The question of back pay is also involved; if pay as colonel of infantry is given him from the date of his dismissal it will amount to about \$115,000.

The case is now before the attorney general for his opinion upon the legal points involved.

PENDULUM TESTS.

Major S. Herschel, of the British engineers, and a grandson of the famous astronomer, is at the Arlington. He visits Washington upon the invitation of Professor Hilgard, of the coast and geodetic survey, to take part in certain nice pendulum observations for determining the exact force of gravity at this point.

He brings the pendulums used in similar experiments in England and India, and which are to be used at various points on the earth's surface to ascertain more precisely the actual formation of the sphere. The tests will be made at the Smithsonian institute.

BLAINE AND BROWN TICKET.

In regard to the talk of a Blaine and Brown ticket, Senator Brown said: "Some time ago I wrote a letter in which I would vote for the next Democratic nominee for governor of Georgia and the next Democratic presidential nominee. Blaine could hardly be the Democratic nominee for president, and upon what I have announced as my intention I could never be on the same ticket with him, or vote for him. I stand by what I have already declared as my intentions. There is no necessity whatever in my opinion for going outside of the Democratic party for candidates. The party could be of itself alone." In reply to a question as to the liberal movement in Georgia, Mr. Brown said he never thought that it could accomplish anything, and that it was further crippled by the fact that republicans of the state are diligently fighting each other in factions over office.

Lafayette Freshies Suspended.

EASTON, Pa., February 22.—The faculty of Lafayette college to-day suspended two freshmen who had been arrested and fined by the police authorities for participating in a street fight with members of the sophomore class on the 13th. The freshmen will be punished by the faculty.

The Storm in the East.

PITTSBURG, February 22.—The storm prevalent throughout the west and north west for the past few days merely touched this city, doing no damage of consequence. Its destructive effects upon telegraph wires, however, has seriously interrupted business. Communication was almost entirely cut off between Pittsburg and the western cities, as the most strenuous efforts of the telegraph men failed to keep one wire working all day.

An official of the Western Union informed a reporter to-day that they have but one wire through to Cleveland, Chicago and St. Louis, whereas twelve wires are usually kept fully employed. In many sections the rain fell and froze on the wire, which were in many places broken down by the great weight. Men are busy along the whole length of the line fixing up the damaged wires, and it is expected that a few days will see everything in the usual order. The Western Union office to-day

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FIRED OUT AGAIN.

Bradlaugh's Seat in the Commons Declared Vacant.

And a Writ of Election Ordered for the District that Returned Him.

Germany Demands of Russia a Formal Explanation of Skobelev's Speech.

The Russian Raider Ordered to Return to St. Petersburg by the Czar.

Miscellaneous News that Came Over the Cable.

GENERAL NEWS.

BRADLAUGH'S CASE.

LONDON, February 22.—In the house of commons Gladstone, replying to questions as to the government's position in the case of Bradlaugh, said the question as to Bradlaugh's disqualification of the speaker's order to leave the floor was one that must be treated by the majority of that body. Sir Stafford Northcote complained of the government's action, and made a motion that Bradlaugh be prevented from entering the house.

During the discussion on the motion of Northcote, Bradlaugh entered and took his seat with the members on the floor, and Sir Stafford Northcote at once withdrew his original motion, and substituted another that Bradlaugh be expelled from parliament. This was carried by 208 majority, Gladstone not opposing the motion in any way.

Sir Stafford Northcote then made a motion for a new writ of election in Northampton, which was agreed to without division.

DAVITT.

DUBLIN, February 22.—Michael Davitt was to-day elected to represent Meath in parliament.

BISMARCK DEMANDS AN EXPLANATION.

BERLIN, February 22.—Prince Bismarck has asked the Russian government for a formal explanation of Gen. Skobelev's speeches.

SKOBELEFF ORDERED TO RETURN.

ST. PETERSBURG, February 22.—The czar has ordered Gen. Skobelev to return to St. Petersburg.

SCHOUVALOFF DEAD.

COUNT SCHOUVALOFF is dead.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ROME, February 22.—During the progress of the carnival here to-day two ridersless horses, while on the Corso, plunged into the crowd, three of whom were killed and injured.

PARIS, February 22.—M. Roussaud, husband of Christine Nielson, died to-day of paralysis of the brain.

CONSTANTINOPLE, February 22.—The porte has expressed satisfaction at the notes received from England and France relating to Egypt.

SWIMMING MATCH AT NEW ORLEANS.

NEW ORLEANS, February 22.—The swimming match of two miles in the river, between Daniel O'Leary, the pedestrian, Engelhardt, the whaleman, and Casey, of the Times-Democrat, was won by Engelhardt. The men wore Paul Boyton suits, and thousands of people, fifty tags, and notes, received from England and France relating to Egypt.

General Engage Agents.

LOUISVILLE, February 22.—A number of baggage agents of prominent eastern and western railroads formed a permanent organization of the association of general baggage agents to-day, electing F. McWade, of the Pennsylvania road, president; W. Freyler, vice president, and M. B. Starring, of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, secretary. There is general expression in favor of charging 25 cents storage for each twenty-four hours after the last on all baggage left in agents' charge. They will meet again to-morrow.

Small Fox.

PITTSBURG, February 22.—Eleven new cases of small pox were reported for this city and Allegheny to-day.

BIG SUIT.

The State of Pennsylvania Suing the Standard Oil Company for \$3,000,000.

HARRISBURG, February 22.—The case of the State vs. the Standard Oil company will be argued in court here to-morrow. Action is brought to recover more than \$3,000,000 alleged to be due as tax on the capital stock from 1872 to 1880. The commonwealth claims that as the company did business in Pennsylvania its whole stock is liable to taxation. The company maintains that it has never, as a corporation, transacted any business in this state, but that through outside agents it merely purchased oil, and that mere buying cannot be construed as an establishment of business. An agreement as to the facts has been prepared and submitted to the court. The commonwealth had no evidence on which to base its taxation but the Standard Oil company, being anxious to settle a question affecting every foreign corporation doing business in the state, voluntarily furnished data on which the agreement was to be drawn. The commonwealth

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CRIMINAL NEWS.

Murder of a Yardmaster—A Couple of Emigrants—Other Misdeeds.

MOOREHEAD, Minn., February 22.—Mrs. Talleff Hanson was shot and killed by her husband yesterday, from whom she had procured a divorce on the ground of cruelty. Hanson then made a weak attempt to kill himself, but will recover.

CHICAGO, February 22.—James McNamara, yardman in the employ of the Michigan Southern railway, was shot and killed by J. W. Evans in the town of Lake early this morning. Evans claims that McNamara assaulted him for the purpose of robbery, but as the latter has borne a good reputation the affair is somewhat mysterious.

BURGLARS SENT UP.

OTTAWA, Ill., February 22.—This morning Garry and McGowan, the two Chicago crackmen found guilty of burglary at Lonestan in this county, were sentenced to the penitentiary for four years and six months each.

ELOPEMENTS.

ROCKFORD, Ill., February 22.—Edward Chase, a married man, aged 40, abducted Miss Wilson, aged 13, and the pair departed for the north. The girl's mother is nearly frantic with grief.

LOGANSPORT, Ind., February 22.—E. M. Wilkus, having a wife and two children, eloped with Ida May Demee, aged 17. The runaway couple were arrested in Terre Haute this evening.

FARO BANK RAIDED.

CHICAGO, February 22.—This evening most of the gambling houses are closed in obedience to the mayor's order. George Hankins' faro bank was raided by the police and the proprietor will be prosecuted.

INDIANA GRAND ARMY ENCAMPMENT.

INDIANAPOLIS, February 22.—The state encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic met here to-day. Every post in the state was represented. The meeting was of unusual interest. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Commander, James W. Carnahan, of Lafayette.

Senior vice commander, Edwin Nichols, of South Bend. Junior vice commander, A. C. Robinson, of Evansville. Medical director, Dr. Wm. Scott, of Kokomo. Chaplain, T. W. Harris, of Crawfordsville.

Delegates to national encampment, Geo. J. Langsdorf, of Green Castle; R. S. Robertson, of Fort Wayne, and J. L. Wooden, of Greensburg. The members attended the reception of Governor Porter to-night.

Marine Intelligence.

NEW YORK, February 22.—Sailed—The Gallia for Liverpool, the Schiedam for Rotterdam, the Canada for Havre.

Arrived—The Ethiopia from Glasgow, the Zealand from Antwerp, the Wisconsin from Liverpool.

PHILADELPHIA, February 22.—Sailed—The British King for Liverpool. GLASGOW, February 22.—Arrived—The State of Nebraska, from New York.

ROTTERDAM, February 22.—Sailed—On the 21st, the Rotterdam for New York.

LIVERPOOL, February 22.—Arrived—The City of Brussels from New York, the Ohio from Philadelphia.