

A WEEK'S NEWS.

Gleaned by Telegraph and Mail

WASHINGTON NOTES.

The Postmaster General has made the ruling that the reduction on the first of October on the domestic rate of postage from three to two cents, reduced also from the same date from the foreign rate per half ounce, the double postage, made in pursuance of section 2043, revised statutes, on letters for delivery in the United States, commonly called "ship letters," which are consigned to the country, should not be regularly employed in conveying mails.

The claim of the United States against the Central Pacific Railroad Company, pending for some time in the courts of California, for a large amount of internal revenue taxes has been compromised. The terms of the compromise were that the railroad company shall pay the Government \$50,000 and costs of the pending suit, and relinquish a claim against the Government for \$25,000, on account of interest alleged to have been unlawfully retained since January 1.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office is reported to be conducting a vigorous crusade against what is known as the land swindlers in the West, and to employ special agents. Thirteen entries of public lands in Washington Territory were cancelled one day recently. The Commissioner said all parties in these cases appear to have combined to rob the Government, the combined amount of the entries being \$1,700,000. The reform Democratic candidates had an average of nearly 200 votes.

The Commissioner of Pensions has in late received a great many letters from various parts of the country, enclosing circulars sent out by Washington claim agents, which disclose the use that the agents were making of the lately published pamphlet, "The Pension Law," in order to induce pensioners not to file the foundation for the pension, but to file the application for the same. The circulars, it is stated, held out inducements to pensioners not to file to be fulfilled, but which looked to an advance fee to the agents.

The report of the Commissioner of Pensions for the fiscal year, ended June 30, 1883, showed that there were 23,438 pensioners on the roll at the end of the fiscal year. During the year the names of five hundred and thirty-nine pensioners were dropped previously, and 1,000 were added during the year were in excess, 10,640 of the preceding year. Average annual value of the pension was \$2,000, and aggregate amount paid for pensions, \$24,344,192; an increase of \$1,000,000 over the year ending June 30, 1882. The appropriation for the year was \$29,000,000. The apportionment for salary and fees to Pension Agents was exhausted, and there is a balance due the agents. The whole number of claims filed for pension was 88,137, of which only 10,000 were allowed. During the same time \$21,073,257 was paid for pensions and costs of disbursements.

The Commissioner of Pensions, in his report, takes up the question on the practices of claim agents, and pensioners, and says: "The evils of which complaint has been made have greatly increased, and the present situation calls for immediate action by Congress." He also said, "the pension law is so framed as to be a snare to unscrupulous persons, and a temptation to the honest and upright to procure applications for pensions, and then assistively draw the claimants until the \$10 fee is secured, and then practically abandon the case like a squaw on a log."

It is estimated that nearly a million dollars will be required to pay for the mail service on subsidized roads for the fiscal years of 1882 and 1883. Serious inroads are being made on the postal revenue, and it is anticipated, for up to the present, that the cost of mail transportation over the branches of the subsidized roads has never been charged to the postal expense, but has been credited to the interest account of the roads, in accordance with the Thurman act.

Colonel Caskey has reported to the Secretary of State at Washington, that the work of erecting a suitable monument over the graves of Thomas Jefferson has been completed, the monument is 100 feet high and a strong and handsome fence built around the burying ground.

SEBASTIAN BRINK, a station laborer, attempted to rob and murder John C. Fox, paymaster of the New Erie & Wyoming Railroad, near Greenville, Pa., recently. The paymaster had a large sum of money about him, and he was shot and killed. Fox was severely wounded and a strong and handsome fence built around the burying ground.

The centennial celebration of Washington's disbanding and taking leave of his volunteer army, at Newburg, N. Y., on the 18th, was attended by fully 50,000 people, Senator Bayard and Hon. William M. Everts delivered orations.

The General Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church began its sixteenth annual Convention in New York on the 18th. Dr. Spaulding presided, and Dr. J. M. Everts delivered the address.

The Mexican Government was lately negotiating in New York for a \$10,000,000 loan.

The amount of gold received at the Sub-Treasury at New York from New Orleans, Galveston, Mobile, Memphis and St. Louis, was \$2,500,000. The amount of gold received at the Sub-Treasury at New Orleans, Galveston, Mobile, Memphis and St. Louis, was \$2,500,000.

At the recent meeting of the National Association of Wholesale Druggists in New York, N. A. Gelatly, of New York, was elected president. Arthur J. Hays, of Louisville, Secretary; J. B. Stronoff, of Cincinnati, Treasurer; A. M. Strong, of Cleveland, Vice President.

many of those concerned in the initial organization had passed away. The declared a great work had been accomplished for and by the women of the country during the intervening period, but declared that the great reforms were to come after the death of the men who had led in the sphere of action, as the world is quiet in accordance with woman what are her rights. Mrs. H. L. T. Walcott, of Boston, read a paper on the work of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Among other papers read were by Mrs. Mitchell, of Chicago, on Scientific Charity. It was a careful analysis of the nature of true charity, and pointed out the difference between benevolence and beneficence, and emphasized the importance of charity which the world most needs.

The Ada Atholton murder mystery at Fowler, Ind., has been cleared up by the confession of Jacob Neill, who had been arrested for the crime, upon suspicion. The confession showed that Neill had been in the orchard, and the young lady was alone in the house, he was seized with an irresistible desire to kill her, which he did with his pocket-knife. He had no motive for the deed other than the one that he hated the sudden desire that took possession of him. It required a strong guard and determined officers to keep a mob from lynching him.

The total vote of Hamilton County, Ohio, was 6,711 and Hood's majority 2,531. The vote in favor of the judicial amendment was 47,250, the regulation of the liquor traffic, 14,710, and prohibition amendment, 8,402. The reform Democratic candidates had an average of nearly 200 votes.

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The assessment rolls of one hundred and fifteen counties in Texas showed an increase of \$1,000,000 in the State over \$1,000,000 above last year, with fifteen counties to hear from, which would double make the total increase \$10,000,000.

The experts sent to Brewton, Ala., by Surgeon General Hamilton, of the Marine Hospital, to make an investigation of the epidemic at that place, reported by telegraph that the disease is yellow fever. Up to the 29th there had been thirty-four cases and fifteen deaths. Dr. Hamilton differs widely from the Southern opinion. The population of the town is between 500 and 550, but the disease was not spreading to any extent.

GENERAL DISPATCH. A LONDON (ENGL.) dispatch stated that four hundred persons were prostrated by trichinosis in ten villages in Saxony. Fifty persons died in a helpless condition. Deaths from the disease were occurring daily.

MARIA McCABE, unmarried, has been sentenced to hang in Hamilton, Canada, for dropping her infant.

The Government of Alsace-Lorraine has prohibited the publication of any French papers in that Province.

ADVANCES FROM ALTA, MEXICO, reported the population of the town decimated by yellow fever, deaths averaging twenty a day for the last two weeks. On the 18th Alta was struck by a hurricane, killing several people and destroying a greater part of the town, and the inhabitants sought refuge in the mountains. Several miles of the Santhola and Durango Railroad were washed away, the bridge at Guarravator blown down.

The failures in the United States and Canada, for the week, ended October 20, were 251, an increase of fifty over the previous week. Failures in the New England States, South and West. Failures also increased in Canada.

A BERLIN (Prussia) dispatch of the 21st stated that the trichinosis in Saxony was increasing and spreading. There were five deaths reported from the disease. The mortality had reached the unprecedented average of twenty per cent. of the total number of infections. In many of the districts entire families were prostrated. The trichinosis in Saxony was increasing and spreading.

THE OTHER DAY THE TREASURY Department sent a letter postmarked Allegheny, Pa., to the Hon. Secretary of the Treasury, enclosing six hundred dollars to be credited to the Consolida Fund.

THE HORNS Manufacturing establishment at Grand Haven, Mich., was destroyed by fire recently with \$8,000 worth of machinery.

Up to the close of business, the 22d, the total amount of Government bonds redeemed under the various calls amounted to \$19,374,000.

merchants in Memphis, New Orleans, Charleston and Mobile. The cars were decorated with streamers, flags and evergreens, and presented a novel appearance. A late fire at Petersburg, Va., destroyed the mammoth tobacco factory of Colonel A. L. Littlejohn, and the smaller brick factory adjoining, owned by Colonel Lefebvre, but occupied by F. M. Dunnington, dealer in leather goods. The total loss was more than \$400,000; insurance, about \$300,000.

FRANKS from the locomotive of a mail-train wrecked at Rock Hill, S. C., and destroyed two hundred and twenty-five bales of the staple, near Marshall, Tex., recently.

THREE counterfeiters, Thomas H. Oliver, Bokaman and James Sprague, who were absconded from Louisville, Ky., by Government detectives, were recently arrested at Mobile, Ala. Counterfeit money, and moulds, acids, etc., for counterfeiting were found in their possession.

JAMES MOORE, a diver in the employ of the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Railroad, was recently the victim of a singular accident at Memphis. While under the water, through a misapprehension of signals, an iron pipe was driven down to the bottom, his feet and hands were compelled to cut him free of it to prevent himself from being drowned.

NEAR Shelby, N. C., the other night, Mr. and Mrs. William Logan, both over seventy years old, were taken at their home by a dog named Mrs. Logan was killed, and her husband choked nearly to death. The negro escaped with \$10.

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GHASTLY BUSINESS.

Sensational Testimony Before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

Some startling testimony was given yesterday morning before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor this afternoon. Mr. Charles T. Chalmers, of Newbury, a carrier by trade, was testifying. He had a prominent part in organizing the Carriers' Union and was blacklisted therefore, so that he has since had great difficulty in finding work. His reputation for veracity is unimpeachable. After he had given some unimportant testimony he was asked by Senator Blair if he had anything else to say.

"Well, sir," said he, "the men complain about the human life business. I know it. Why do you mean to say," asked Senator Blair, "that this has been done by any person?" "Yes, sir, I do," replied he, "and of my own personal knowledge. I saw him myself as much as five or six years ago. I heard of it from a very high rank officer of the United States army who heard of them. The men were arrested and held in jail for a long time. Three or four months ago it was stopped."

Senator Blair. What have you to say? Witness. I have seen several white slaves in the city of New York. I saw them at the feet and looked at them as they passed. Why do you mean to say that? Witness. I don't know how to say it. It might injure me.

Senator Blair. I will take the responsibility for that. Witness. Well, I myself can stand it. I have seen them at Muller's tannery in Cambridge. The last one about a year ago. Witness. How do you mean to say that? Senator Blair. Do you mean any one else saw them? Witness. Yes, I do. I mean to say that I saw them at Muller's tannery in Cambridge. The last one about a year ago. Witness. How do you mean to say that? Senator Blair. Do you mean any one else saw them? Witness. Yes, I do. I mean to say that I saw them at Muller's tannery in Cambridge. The last one about a year ago.

FRENCH EXCESSES IN TOUQUIN.

The Story of the Wholesale Slaughter of the Amateurs by the French at the Taking of Hue—The Wounded Mercilessly Butchered while Pleading for Their Lives.

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THE PEACE CENTENNIAL.

The Celebration at Newburgh, N. Y.—An Immense and Enthusiastic Demonstration on the Ground where Washington Took Leave of his Victorious Army—A Tour of the Character of the Country's Greatest Defender.

Newburgh, N. Y., Oct. 19. This was one of the loveliest of lovely autumn days, and the confidence of the people in the glorious sunshine on the 18th of October was such that the preparations for the centennial celebration of Washington's disbanding and taking leave of his victorious army, all questions about the past ten years of the 19th of October had been cleared up. Great crowds of people arrived by boats and trains last night and thronged the downtown streets. Many persons could not find lodgings, so crowded were the hotels and dwellings of the city and towns round about. Touching processions, firemen's displays, fireworks and much enthusiasm were the preparations for the day-to-day.

The day was illuminated by electric lights along the river banks and large numbers of vessels, including yachts, steamboats and United States war ships riding at anchor, made a picturesque scene. Mayor Ward held a reception in honor of the distinguished guests. At sunrise today the Society of the 18th of October, which was organized to perpetuate the memory of the day, was held at the cannon planted at Washington's headquarters and elsewhere on both sides of the river, and by ringing all the church bells. Immense crowds of people were gathered on the river bank to witness the ceremony.

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THE PROTETUS DISASTER.

The Personal and Literary.

The famous pianist, Dr. Hans von Bulow, has become the inmate of a lunatic asylum.

Mr. Spurgeon's publisher is said to possess the original copies of "John Ploughman's Talk."

Mr. MacVaugh is going to write up his six months' experience in the Gardfield Cabinet. Philadelphia Press.

From the fact that she calls it "dear America" now, the Louisville Courier-Journal infers that Mrs. Langtry is learning to be a great actress.

Texas has a little girl lecturer, Jennie Scott by name, who is a prodigy. She is seven years old, and speaks most learnedly on many subjects. She has never been to school. Chicago Herald.

Mrs. Julia Gardner Tyler, widow of Andrew Tyler, and Mrs. Sarah Childress Polk, widow of ex-President Polk, draw their pensions of \$5,000 each at the agency in Knoxville, Tenn.

Senator Bob Hart, the reformed minstrel, hopes to make something out of a forthcoming autobiography, as people seem to think that a Ferguson can live on air and get fat by chewing daylight. Detroit Post.

Miss Leslie Ayer, daughter of the late James Ayer, of patent medicine celebrity, is the latest American target for the aim of impugners foreign Courts. The young woman, with her net of \$5,000,000, receives much attention in the aristocratic circles of Paris. N. Y. Herald.

There was a happy family reunion in Polk County, Ore., a few days ago, Mrs. Nancy Lazzett, of Missouri, having gone thither to meet her three sisters, whom she had not seen for forty-five years. She is seventy-five years old, and her sisters are Mrs. Kinsey, aged seventy, Mrs. Clark, aged sixty, and Mrs. Price, aged sixty-seven. Chicago Journal.

A Brahmin missionary to England gives the description of John Bright: John Bright cuts his breakfast like a lion, and digests it, Clark, aged sixty, and Mrs. Price, aged sixty-seven. Chicago Journal.

The widow of Rev. Kikannah Walker is probably the sole survivor of the women who rode across the plains to Oregon on horseback in the early days of the settlement of Oregon in the State, and is still in good health. The saddle on which she rode across the plains forty-five years ago is still in her possession. Her son, C. H. Walker, the oldest of the pioneer born in Oregon, was with her in Portland on the recent railroad parade. N. Y. Post.

Secretary of War, J. C. Sherman, Secretary of the Navy, J. D. Long, and Secretary of the Interior, W. B. Forster, with respect to the failure of the Yankee in which he says, after detailing the instructions to the Yantic and her failure to comply with them.

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Inscrutable Losers of Keys.

"It is likely enough, as you say," remarked an up-town locksmith, "that my place doesn't appear particularly amusing. But if you had been in this business as long as I have—nigh on forty years—you'd have seen some curious interesting little circumstances. I don't believe that there are any queerer men on earth than the regular chronic key cranks.

"Now, here's a couple of dozen keys all of exactly the same pattern, that I am making for one man. He doesn't know that I'm making them, but I know that he's sure to call for one of these keys pretty regularly, once a week, until they're all gone. He's a genuine 'loser,' and the most curious thing about the matter is that he has not the remotest idea of how or where he ever lost a key. A few weeks ago he had a small case made to hold a duplicate. Well, as no men are so ready to lock things up as key losers, the first thing he did was to have a lock put on his closet. Then, of course, he used to lose his keys, and he'd get a new one. Well, he would have broken open his little cupboard with a hammer. Finding after awhile that he was losing two keys instead of one, he had to return to the old plan.

That tall man, who just went out, is a little queer, by the way, though he's not a heavy key loser; he won't average more than two a month. Last winter he had a box constructed and sent it to his home, and he'd go to receive newspapers in it. He said he always got his papers all right, but some one in the house was sure to look over them before he did. Now, I don't think I'm a scholar, but I used to say, 'if there is anything I do enjoy it is to sit down before my coffee and just unfold my fresh morning paper myself.' Perhaps he's right; he sometimes falls that way myself. It may be one of the regular habits of his nature, however. This man just told me that he thinks he has discovered how he loses his keys. He went to a restaurant the other day and called in to get a cup of coffee. He took his coat and then he recollected that he had taken it from his pocket and laid it on the table when he asked for the newspaper. Of course he had no reason to do so, but the key and the newspaper had become so associated in his